CORRESPONDENCE
BETWEEN
Lois Winslow-Sprague
AND HER SISTERS
CLARE AND EVA Mercer
AND HER BROTHERS.

BERNARD G. HARRINGTON AND hisson
WILLIAM SEYMOUR HARRINGTON (Bill)

B. Lee (Bernard)

From Clare (sister)

to Lois

1950-1966

Exhaust
Book

3492 Peel St.
Montreal,
Dec 26th 1952

Dearest Lois -

Just where to begin it is hard to say - we really had a lovely Xmas from start to finish - I must confess I missed my "sisters" Lois & Eva - but they had wonderful substitutes in this children, who took on "Bill & Clare" with great good cheer - Your gifts were most delightful - I had been longing for a Book to read (not like my old Library days when I was never without) often now I have nothing to pick up at hand - Edna Ferber, I have always found interesting, & this new one of hers I have not read, & look forward to - The little extra gifts of your nice little scent bottle, & most useful & attractive hat pins, not to mention the life like Photo of you & Edward - need honourable mention, as well as deep gratitude - Will is thrilled with his sweater, & "gratitude", & is in good form - You will have heard that we dined in the middle of

the day with John + Isobel + it was such fun seeing the delight of the little girls at such a perfect age for enjoyment. It was when we arrived there, that we learned of Mary's hurried trip, in the early hours of the morning, to the Hospital, where the 3rd son was born, quite in a hurry — but you will be relieved to know that all is well with them — you will doubtless have details from Anne + Ruth — We were disappointed not to have Duncan, at the evening party, at Anne's (Mikey + Evelyn Will. + I being transferred from Patricia Ave, to Belmont for the dinner) Duncan staged at home, with the "Boys", would not be relieved by any of us — Mary had dinner with Sam at the Club ~~last~~ a few nights before, + was hoping she could be at home for Xmas day — Well they say it is a very lucky date to be born on, + that you can expect great things, from the one, who comes on Dec 25th — —

Anne's dinner, was perfect, in every way & the house looking most attractive, the new curtains up - Barbara looking very sweet; & grown up, in a charming dress Anne had made —

This morning the Club was closed but anyone who was here, could get their breakfast, which I did, & came up to my room, & greatly enjoyed the Radio - I found some of the broadcasts from the different churches most touching & worth while, & then the Queens message was wonderful, & sincere, I thought, & altogether it gave one a good start to a happy day with others - Where the world went to I do not know, but cars & busses were almost empty, & it made it so easy to get about -

I believe Mrs Porter died early this morning - a private funeral today which I did not know about or I might have gone - I will miss her - another door to the past closed. Your photos beside me really they are life like - again thanking you & Ed. for your gifts & loving good wishes - hope your Xmas was really happy. Love fr Clare

do hope they give pleasure —
much love — + 3492 feel it
my rest from Montreal
Mattie = affect. Clare May 31st 1955

Dearest Lois —
It was a very nice
letter you were kind enough
to send me — + I was glad
that you thought I was
properly turned out for
the little occasion — so I
unexpected to us all —
was told that at the
Baccalaureate Sunday Service
in the Arthur Currie Gym,
that Principal Jones gave
the sermon, which was
almost entirely on "Sir William"
~~his~~ his character, not
his abilities — his religious
life — I was so sorry

I had not known about it -
I never thought of anything
more being said about
Grandfather, after the
Museum occasion - The
annual sermons after
graduation, are of course
especially for the Students
I have sometimes gone to
one - Mrs Burnham has
promised to get me a
copy of Saxon - if there
is one - Returning to
the Museum, I was
amused by a remark
of Ruth's - She said, she
looked over at her mother
& 2 Aunts, & said that
we all looked so well
that, for her, we had

removed every fear of "Old Age"!!! It seemed to have comforted her - But I must not ramble on, as getting "myself" off seems to require more work than you would think - It covers my room here has to be emptied of everything - every pidgeon holes on the desk etc - I have on friday - a wonderful letter from Brother Bill, who is bubbling over with joy at the thought of being on the cottage - coming home he says - + how he has worked within as well as without,

Everything scrubbed & aired — cleared of damp, little stove lit on cold days — & the climax is, that he has held most of the bulbs, to come into full bloom on Saturday — a few hurried daffodills have burst their shells, but other things are waiting to join in a chorus of welcome — Really I do not know how to be grateful enough to Will — he does so much & so well — I sent a little wedding gift to Paul & his lady — 3 plates from Italy to hang on wall — I

heart a great deal.
Love from
Clare

3492 Peel St.
Montreal
May 1st 1956.

Dearest Lois —

Such a lovely day for May 1st sun shining & a little warmer — Will left for Metis last night. We had lunch together, & then he came up to the Club for dinner until train time. He looked quite exhausted after his "Mary" prepar-

ations - but was delight-
ed to be off & away
from the city, his
"Residence" here has
latterly not been very
peaceful - but the
wonderful visit to Alice,
& all your kindness,
helped the winter through
wonderfully -
Hazel Hastings (Senior)
telephoned this afternoon
to ask me to tea on
Friday, & to know if
you were in town, &

world come too — ? So ring me up if you should be popping down — I think of you often, & of your present efforts to try & gather all your things together & to simplify your life a bit — & to make you feel more established, & really interested, in the many outlets, of the artistic gifts given you — & then all your dear children to live for, & to give them inspiration for their lives, an example

of the full + happy life
you + Ed. had - not mixed
up with these horrid
divorce problems, which
are getting so common
now, that Christ's words
on that problem, are
forgotten - More + more
I feel that the neglect of
Gods commandments not
only of the Old Testaments
but the new, will have to be lived by,
beginning with the children
at a very early age - to
keep them from much
sorrow + temptation, later -
but I did not mean to
sermonize - but I think in my

3492 Peel ST
Montreal
May 20th/62

Dearest Lois —

An uneventful journey down — with a stop for lunch, at the little place you spoke of — no hindrance from traffic until we got nearer to Montreal, but nothing that Evy could not handle. Heavy showers of rain, & since getting to the Club thunder, rolling away, then returning, but much cooler — What a lot you did do for us, & how comfortable you made us, & how much beauty everywhere, within, & without, it was healing, & gave us quite a lift

from days of people-
meet, & uncertainty - &
yet - & yet, it was rather
wonderful to think
of the three of us coming
together happily, having
each traveled along
such different roads,
& yet recognizing the
sense of early comparison ships, & much that
we all shared in together
and how much we have
all to be thankful for.
I like to think of you
in your adorable sur-
roundings, surrounded
by friends who admire
you, & that you are
anxious for us to share
in - your really lovely
& unique home, gives
so much pleasure to

money, & your favorite
is helped over many
a stone, as you
well know from to it -
nothing new at
the club, over this
holiday week end -
for 9 letters greeted
me, most of them
awaiting answers -
several from Will,
& I am not quite
sure yet how things
stand - but it looks
at the moment, as if
I could be in for
2 maids ?!!! What
luxury & how they
would disagree ?! but
I will hear more after
tomorrows holiday -
Eva stood up well,
driving all that way,
but still seems very
down - but I am

sure she will feel
the benefit of this change.
So my dear again, I
try to thank you, &
I hope you will rest
be as tranquil as
possible for a little
before your next
kindness to outsiders.
I know, all those
faded bulbs must
be got out, but there
may be a fairy
in each one.

With love as
always. Clare

P.S. Better not Paper already
at Mebis –

Berkshire
Metis Beach
Sept 14th 1962

Dearest Lois -

Will & I were delighted to have news of you, & your doings, but were sorry to hear of the upsets concerning Mrs. Asseff. Her maid companion passing away so suddenly must have been a great shock to many all concerned - & of course everything fell on your shoulders a verse that has helped me & which you likely remember, in times of difficulties, is the following "That we may obtain mercy, & find grace to help in time of need", it makes one feel

that they should be grateful if given the opportunity of helping, well you have had a plenty of this sort of opportunity - & will I am sure be given grace - Your gift of Records have been most timely, with the closing date so imminent, dear Will becomes very upset, & this year with loud cries on every hand of un-employment we have so far been quite unable to get any necessary help - We have just emerged from a magnificent Easterly storm, I never remember seeing waves the velocity &

ridge of those that rushed towards us - shattering rocks & sand & other things, as the spray came right over Boulder & low rocks - two of of birch trees have split from top to bottom, & we simply must get them down - other trees bent over - We have really been quite comfortable in the house, temperatures not often going in to the forties - The autumn colouring not as brilliant as usual although the yellow leaves of the birch are lovely peeping behind the spruce - We also have been seeing

white decks which I
believe are here now -
altogether I love it, &
we are never at a
loss for occupation,
the fleets come in &
out, & we love to see
them. otherwise not
a visitor in sight, &
the stress of "people"
gone. Jane F.
read us a letter
written by Mary
Robertson (Elecson's
daughter who, on a
trip to the coast,
stayed with our Clare -
She gave a wonderful
picture of the old
homestead, & of what
Clare had done to
it - She liked the

husband who adores his
Clare, & is so kind & gentle
She says the little girl
is a beauty, fair haired
& blue eyed, & so well
behaved. The house is
large & right on the main
highway where the traffic
is something – but the
view from the back
where they mainly
live is wonderful!
Mary said Clare was
making the house most
attractive with little
artistic touches –
Evas last news was
good, although the
X Rays showed that
the pneumonia had
not altogether cleared
up – but she was

beginning to feel better.
Nothing much to be
done but wait & go
slow - until the virus
wears off - I believe
the weather has been
lovely which helps. -
Here we have just
passed through a really
magnificent storm.
never in the past
have I seen such
waves - they were
enormous, & began
to curl over at the
very horizon - Bonie
Rock they just left
over - it really was
wonderful - the weather
has been changeable

but not too cold, although we are having tea indoors usually now. but the sun will shine again. The colouring is so far belated, & not as brilliant as usual for autumn - but the birch trees are yellow & against the spruce are lovely - but are we tired now of the birches look as if lightning had struck them, and split them top to bottom - we have not so far been able to get any help for cutting trees which

seems strange, as everyone complains about unemployment & you can't get anyone to do a stroke of work, within or without – But we are living each day as it comes – The moon too glorious last night – always something lovely to enjoy – oh city lights & roof tops, & ships what a contrast!!! I would like to longer longer than Oct, 8th but frost comes by then & pipes freeze etc. & it seems better not. dear will I ever be able to leave him much love my dear Clare

Thought you might like to see the enclosed letter, I think it is very good.

"Cedarbrae"
Almonte, Ont
July 19/64 —

Dearest Clare —

I am just getting around to writing a few letters, and I must say, it is a little bit of an effort, it is so extremely warm. Yesterday it was over 90° and today 88° — There is not a breath of wind — it seems so strange to find this heat here, after all the very cold weather at Metis. it takes some adjusting —

I had a good trip up. the train was much smoother than I expected, and we sped along at just an nice rate. It was lovely to have Bill & Eva to see me off. I gazed out of the window hoping to have a last look at them, but they were off pretty quickly — I suspect they were after "Banana splits" or some equally intriguing! both some delight!! —

I got up to my house about quarter to eight A.M. and after a little search found myself some breakfast. after this I looked about the house, and all seemed well — I decided to go down town and do a few things — I hope that Bill has received the socks by now — and that he is wearing them — They do not make them in light colours. there was a choice of black, brown & Navy — I thought that the navy were best — he can, of course wear his fancy ones, when he wants to dress up & make a hit!!

On Friday morning Frank telephoned me, and we decided

it would be nice to have a chat - so we arranged to have lunch together - and this was lovely, for he called for me and relieved me of all worry about my big heavy bag -
Daisy seems to be improving slowly - She is now taking classes in school work - She is under very strict discipline - which I think is really what she has needed for years -

Ruth is up with Anne - Frank plans to take Ruth & the boys to Metis on Aug. 7th They will be with the Stevens for a week Mrs Stevens was a school friend of Ruth's - Frank has made no plans for the 2nd week but thinks that they might go a little further on - perhaps to Bathurst - but he is not sure -

It has been very dry up here - and there seem to be very few flowers in the garden - my geraniums which are in large pots around the doors, are by far the best show of colour - Oh yes and some quite lovely pink hollyhocks -

My visit with you was all too short, but I enjoyed every minute of it - It was so lovely to be in the dear old house again with at least 4 Harrington's - You always have everything in such perfect order - all your pretty little flowers in their individual pots are a joy to look at - And your adorable little maid bringing such good food - Elsie & Bill are a wonderful host & hostess with your warm & kind hospitality -

I hear that you are both keeping well, and that the weather has cheered up -

Much love and again many thanks for a very happy visit - affectionately Lois -

Croydon Apartments
3455 Cote des Neiges
Montreal 25

April - 24th - 1966.

Dearest Lois - How swiftly the days, & indeed the hours, sweep on -- we still miss your dear presence greatly, & can only hope, that almost's gives you a welcoming joy, as well as fewer cares -?!! you will indeed be nearer, to the great miracle of spring, as it reveals itself to you in all your surroundings - Here we are much as you left us - Last night Will & I had dinner with Eva, such a delicious little meal, cooked by one of

the helpers - & a game of cards with Will afterwards - Eva, just like her old self, & really looking well, although I know still not up to very much - We have had such a lovely spell of weather, but Sunday has brought us showers, much needed - The good Alice (K.) had us there to share in one of her Nannys good dinners, Will returning with me here, for a rest, & supper - He is getting very worked up over his preparations for Medis, & has his reservation for May the 2nd as you know he is due for a check up, which he

will have in Kissoruske, &
I do hope, it will be all
that could be desired -
Tomorrow morning Joan
is driving us down to
the Botanical Gardens,
which are said to be
especially beautiful this
year - I had a nice
letter from Ethel, telling
me of her move to
~~Victoria~~ Vancouver, to
a Home for Elderly,
not far from Louise -
The family all approve
this, as Vancouver is a
sort of centre for them
all, & E. seemed some-
what isolated in Victoria -
Clare & daughter, still seem
to be headed for a visit

here - & I only wish I could welcome her to a home, mine I really am very fond of her - however it will be nice to see her again & the "Wonder" Child - All this so pleasant to look forward to, but I will have to find some vitamine pills to be able to help - & enjoy it all - Will & I are troubled about Mrs Leslie, who may have to have an operation - if so it will be her fourth - marvelous woman she is, her life so devoted to others - "Clare's" bed time past, but so much love to you all & again, we miss you

affect Clare

1

Kirkcudbrightshire
Metis Beach
June 26th 1.66

Dearest Lois - With all that has had to be seen to, with this "beloved spot" - memory seems to have skipped quite a few things, one your kindness in writing a welcome to Metis, & then, what is giving me much delight, the wonderful pictures of Cedarbrae, you have indeed done "wonders" with what has come to be to you, "a beloved spot" & so much of your own creation, & originality - Every picture speaks of a charming home, where many will be welcomed, & interesting people will gather there, & the next generation, will love & benefit by it - I thank you so very much for

thinking of sending me this precious newspaper cutting - you look very much occupied in the excellent pottering corner of the basement - thank you more than I can say, for letting me have this -

Now for a few words on what has greeted me here, apart from Walls joy at getting into the cottage - + having a bit of Home life - everywhere you look there are improvements, the front lawn perfect, + at the present everything flowering that can bloom, lilacs white + mauve, Hawthorn tree a mass of white bloom - + the

many Pink Honeysuckle
Bushes, drooping with
their weight of flowers,
but really it is as if
things that have been
dormant, for years have
suddenly awakened
anew - I just look with
wonder at them - The
Banks at the back are
full of Lily-of-the Valley
forget-me-nots + scarlet
poppies, orange, yellow
+ white - The turtleheads
Pidgeon berries with their
little white faces looking
skyward - all through
the woods - but enough
said, but it is as though
the work of years has
shown, for most of what
the dear Will has been
~~now been~~ striving for -

I only wish you could see it — — Until yesterday there has not been a living soul about, except Mamie Cream — our only guest, through the gate — I think the schools in Mtl — close later now — nobody in the cottage next door — I doubt if there will be, before day — Con + Joan were in Portugal the last I heard of them —

Eva writes happily from her little House near you, goes away for weekends mostly + best of all — seems wonderfully well —

There is of course a tinge of sadness, abroad here

The Seaside Hotel has completely vanished, not even a board left, all sold off - You stand where it stood, & see a lovely view of Bell & low Rocks - I will be glad when the Fleet arrives, but they do not come until a week or two in July - Isabella still having eye treatments The Cascade all boarded up - not opening this year - but The Bowle Rock is now open, freshly painted & looking well - Our little Maids has a "Boy Friend" now - & needs a little more supervision, but we are glad to have her - So far I have had

breakfast in ~~K~~ bed which sounds luxurious, but I really do not appreciate it, provisions have been quite difficult to get, & the Butcher etc wrecks early & Willo & Adel have not been successful in the meat line - but a good fresh herrings comes often -

Well my dear, I could ramble along for some time yet - but didn't you to know how we had settled in, this wonderful season with everything everywhere looking its best -

So much love

Clare

Birkenshaw
Metis Beach
Aug 10th/66

Dearest Iris –

How wealthy I have become in collecting years 86 of them, it is unbelievable, but the weight of them is supported with so much that is happy, that all I can do is to try & express my gratitude in many directions – Will comes first in all this, & you a close runner up – Will has made it possible for me to come to this adored spot – he has got the property looking better than ever, & the especially gorgeous days of this summer, have contributed much –

Aug 7th has come & gone, a
quiet day which I liked,
but the dear Wife, felt it
should have been more
of a "Grand Festival"
for one who had travelled
so far into life - but that
was not what I wished
for - I had much pleasure
in receiving letters, & cards,
& little parcels - I do thank
you for the original maple
sugar, powdered, & in a
bottle - all ready for a
feast day - delicious !!!
you would find some-
thing original - & such a
lovely card, to carry your
birthday wishes - thank
you, & thank you again -
Eva has just had tea with
us on the veranda, you
know she has been staying

with Claire Robinson, but leaves for Montreal tonight - She has come to us often & we wish she could stay with us, for awhile, but after a few days in Mtl. hopes to be estate, to meet Sheila, in Pawtucket a promised Holiday for Sheila -- as to our neighbors next door, we really have seen little of them - They all leave early (en famille, which is nice - for Wolf or Fernis - even little Susan over special friends -
Metis is not as full as usual this summer - The Cascade closed, & only the Boule Roll to go to - Rumours say that John Molson is having the

Cascade Hotel pulled down, the fate of the Seaside which has completely vanished - We do miss the Post Office being at its old corner, now it is up at the Rousseaus (Carpenter) just a bit out of reach - but nobody walks, these days all in cars, except on the links - A Garden Fete, at Mrs Burlands old house, to make money for the Club House - Such a beautiful view from there, + the garden still lovely - The usual Cabaret will be soon - Frank Ruth + Tyler coming for it - I feel badly that I did not offer to take them in, Tyler of course is with them, but I hope still to be able to help with that - Will is very

nervous at times, he is shortly due for a Bermuda cheque up - is rather anxious to escape that, poor fellow, he has been through a lot, & is really quite wonderful the way in which he takes it - & pills galore & more pills - He works hard & so well, about the place, I could wish he could be more tranquil, but he is like most of us, temperamental - but why all this - we are well, & greatly enjoying being in a real home - There are almost none of my contemporaries, this year - but some one pleasant always turns up - the John Laplures the last - but I must close this ramble, & keep something to share with you on my return - If not too

cold will Dug to stay in the cottage until end of Sept. Will the Kind helper makes this possible — I was just thrilled to think of your having a bit of a holiday, all too short, I know but helpful —

With so much love, Will & I are having supper with Erica who is living in Lily's cottage — our first home out — "Groans from Will" but he will enjoy the change (I hope) yes I think so —

Much love Clare

3492 Peel St -
Montreal
Oct 29th 1950

Dearest Iris -
I'm very
grateful & relieved
you must be that
dear Alice's little
daughter has arrived
safely with apparently
so happy a landing.
Many of us have
worried & prayed
with her, & for her,
with the love & affection

that is hers, inside
of the church that has
not been to our
way of thinking —
I do hope this child
of heavenly received
may be of great
help, in this raster
upset world. —
What it must mean
to Alice — after the
tragic years of dis-
appointment; one
can hardly fully

appreciate - & of
course you have
travelled the Road
with her - & had
much to bear too
by her Sister -
, parents are wonder-
ful things, or can
be - I often think
of them -
We now look
for Eva's arrival
on Tuesday, but
of course they may

be delayed again -
I don't think I answered
inside all of Edwards
letter - Attached
to my Will & testament
I always keep a
letter with instruct-
ions for you & Eve
as to disposal of my
personal possessions -
We can talk more
of it if you wish, when
we meet -

Much love as always
Clare.

The University Women's Club of Montreal
Inc.
3492 PEEL STREET
MONTREAL

March 4th/1950

Dearest Lois —

Your quiet presence has gone from us once more, & as always we miss you. I thought you were wonderful to be so controlled in thought, & attitude —, knowing well what you have been through — It was surprising too, how in so short a time, you were able to give each & all, a little of yourself — you will feel lost for awhile without the constant & loving vigil — but there is much for you to see to get, & without the

central objective - therefore less inspiring - I think often of that last bit of life, & of how even if much pain does not enter into it, there must be a great weariness, & distressing confusion, at times, which leads to the path of rest, & peace -

yesterday was 16 below with a wind - & I just didn't go out, which has put me a bit behind with Xmas preparations - I did hope to help Eva, for I know how she feels about showing off - as will always feels the

The University Women's Club of Montreal
Inc.
3492 PEEL STREET
MONTREAL

Sorry when going any-
where - somebody has to
push - I really was not
born a pusher - but you
can have a try - ?!
I am afraid Edward
will find it hard to
settle - & I only hope
the business end of
things will not be
too arduous - if he can
take them easily &
not at full speed -
You have a beautiful
home, & I would like
to think of you taking
time, to really sit by
the fire, remembering

the happy things of the past, & letting the home feel joy, as well as sorrow, so that all who come to it may know, that kindness is there, under all circumstances —
Well I must not ramble on, but will next be writing from Alice —
We expect to be there from 7th to 21st —
Much love to you & Edward
affectionately
Clare.

3492 Peel St
Montreal
Nov 22nd 1951

Dearest Lois –

What a thrilling time we have had during the visit of the Princess – Eva & I often said – if Lois were only here, how she would have loved it – I do not think anyone unless bedridden, missed seeing them, even Muriel from her flat saw them twice – The Duke said they had not seen such crowds anywhere else – I saw them 5 times, & with so little effort – The night they arrived on Peel St. & then from the Square when they appeared on the Balcony of the Windsor – Then the next morning at McGill where Eva & I had seats – The McGill decoration were quite the best in the city, & really the approach to Arts Bldg. was lovely – so many friends sat near to us, & the car passed very slowly & we almost felt as if we could have touched their rightness – Then I had lunch at Evas, & we again saw them pass on Côte des Neiges – In the Evening Eva Mickey Evelyn, & I, went to the Square, & were only there about 10 minutes, when Princess & Duke in all their finery

appeared on the Balcony - She in white satin & diamonds, tiara & all. He in evening dress - a red coated Mounties on either side - The crowd numbered at ten thousand, went wild with excitement - They had been calling "We want our Princess" for ages - but everything was orderly - no pushing about - The mounted Policemen with such beautiful horses whose hoofs were painted silver for the occassion - But you will have read all about it in the papers which really were good - especially the pictures - The one thing I have heard criticized was the gathering at the Chalet on top of the mountain - Whether it was Mayor Hoades fault I do not know - some say he just invited everyone - but a motley medley behaved crew crowded in - & it was apparently far from pleasant - and of course one feels it was cruel to have so many of the city fathers meet the people over & over again etc - I only hope they will not be worn to a shred, it was just too much of a programme - will expects to see them at Montfolie where they are to sleep for 10 minutes -

3492 Peel St
Montreal
Nov 19th 1960.

Dearest Lois —

I had dinner at Evas last night to meet two distinguished guests "John & Isobel". I was so glad to have the opportunity of hearing of their holiday — you only had to look at them to know what a success it had been. How John especially responds to wider interests & experiences when opportunity comes — I do hope he will be able to keep the "lift up" he certainly has had. I have been sorry the Club here has not had more interesting lectures this year — entirely for him in character & attendance — John felt that his Father was confronting with the more restricted life — I do hope the Dr. D. was pleased with him —

As far as I am concerned, it would be delightful to visit you Thursday Nov 30th — until Dec 6th — the train leaving at 8 (quarter to) excellent. I did not know you could get right through without a long wait between — at Ottawa. Of course let me know at any time

if things should alter your plans - I know naturally how anxious you must be to see Alice & Babe - etc.

I went into the Pottery Exhibit yesterday, & there were some lovely pieces - not as many, or as varied I thought as at Yorkshire, but considerable originality, especially from Nova Scotia - Little Miss Perry full of enquiries for you -

Last Sunday I went to the Cathedral on Sunday morning, as Dean Evans was speaking on the attitude of the Church of Eng. in connection with with the Pope's latest ruling of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary - It really frightens one when you think of anyone daring to promulgate such a theory - & Dean Evans denounced, in no uncertain measure - a really forceable address on the subject - I think it is to be printed -

I must write to Bill, who is still very happy at Metis, speaks of possibly staying there for Xmas & coming up later on, & I was inclined to agree - but we will see - Mrs Meikle is being very kind, also the delightful little Postmistress ??!!&! -

Much love from Clare

3492 Peel St
Montreal.
Dec 20th 1950

Dearest Lois - I went up to the Hospital yesterday afternoon, to see your little dove, of whom I know you will have been thinking a great deal - She looked very sweet & comfortable after the rigours of the day before - apparently, although the Birth was not so very long, it seems to have been difficult & strenuous - I don't mean anything really wrong, but mean certainly had forced it much harder to take, than when any of the other children arrived - However we have everything to be thankful for, a really dear little Baby of 7½ lbs. quite a lot of dark hair, neat little features - eyes close to head - & a general look of strength - I posed as "Grandmother" to see her, for you - Eva goes off tonight, I will go down to Station to see her off, if possible -

my little offerings to you for Xmas were a bit disappointing - for one of them I went to 5 shops before I could get it at all - & the other is not up to what we could have got years ago - but still, even in small things sense shrinks - your helpful little list arrived too late, but am glad to have it for future use - Among two much love goes to you & Ed - & I hope your Xmas will be deeply happy —

Will Guide excited about all the goings on for a merry Xmas, although at times a wee bit lonely for us all - But I think he will have a happy day - I am going to Johns & Isobels Xmas night, & know I will enjoy it - I had Cristall to dinner last night as I will not see her Xmas Day, she is "feeding the hungry" literally at her flat — No more now but love again from Clare

P.S. Dodent Bodo
Will was writing —

"Birkenshaw"
Bebis Beach
Sept 16th 1951

Dearest Lois —

after a storm, comes a calm, & I was really grateful when all the Hotels closed with a bang so to speak, on Sept 3rd — For in a community with as many Hotels as we have here, there is such a large floating population, with nothing to do, but wander in & out, visiting the cottagers — consequently you breathlessly make up your bed, wondering if you can make the kitchen before the gate chicks, & then the vegetable woman, & the belated Butcher usually arrives with the visitors, & you wonder at the end of the day, who you have seen, & who not — & after a while you recalling how many you have seen, but without more than a greeting, & often you would love to have had a real chat with one dear friend, & to tell at last, that you have exchanged one idea — I

merely mention this in response to your last nice letter which expressed much the same feeling - in slightly different circumstances - We have just had the most perfect spell of rain, calm, weather; belated summer, & so welcome - we are enjoying every minute of our last days here, & are catching up, with many things we should have seen to long ago - within & without - Will really rather overwhelmed with work - "Snippett" our little maid has at last really "Caught On" as to how we like to live, & cooks adequately of not splendiferously, & still will put on Earrings (bangles) whenever she wears a Cap -

You will have heard from Muriel that she was going into the Hospital for 2 weeks - while she was on her holidays, which seemed to fit in well - I can only hope the Dr. T-'s wont want to try anything too drastic - I really would like to

he is from, on account of her - & on the other hand, Will so dreads the closing of the cottage, & his time of living in a home, is so short, that I hate to have him disappointed, so at present one date for leaving here is Oct. 1st. The Club again - Ena is back now, & after a really wonderful trip, with Jean Kennedy, arrived home to find no Somalia, no light, no water - & is at the moment hard put to it - She will have likely told you of her visit to Washington where she found a charming friend in inside of unspeakable grey-shoes - I never thanked you for your good birthday wishes - I think it nothing of their being a bit late, for I knew what you had on hand about Aug 7th. It seems to have been a great success, that visit of Ruth & Anne & children - did I tell you that Alice & Dick who were to visit us for a short time - never came - we were

very disappointed. So was Olive I know - She & Max have been moving into a smaller house, & have had many alterations to be seen to, & difficulties with workmen & materials - Violet Morley-Cass came to us & was a very pleasant guest. I have been so often to visit her, that I was indeed glad to have had her here. Your dear Alice has asked Will & myself there in Oct. it is impossible for Will - & I do not know, it all depends on how I find Muriel, not that I am responsible there, with Eric Janet & Ian etc. but I do feel she likes me to be at hand - How Alice has come through her summer, Baby expectant & all, I do not know. Added to all the children, domestic difficulties the old Father & his nurse, constant entertaining - it really is just too much !!! I do think Guss should let her come up & have a quiet

Stone with you - but I doubt if he ever will

To return to Metis, I expect you have heard of Arthur Mills new house which he has built, Laura McLarish - having done the job (professionaly) - It is back in the country, behind where Crawford lives & at the top of a hill - heavenly view of the Point etc. a winding drive way up to it - Terraces - winding paths & steps up & down - The house a dream really - utterly unlike Metis in character - more like an exclusive American Club - but one would indeed be blind, if they could not admire - It was all begun last fall, & it was ready for living in this summer a miracle. & Laura deserves great credit - & she did nearly everything with local help - a Rousseau masterpiece - two new cottages

on the road to the Red Hill, & 3 more going up — Cwm Y Llwyrcs old property said to be sold to Mr Jenoman. This gives one an ache — I would so have liked us to have it. The last bit of property in this vicinity — But I must leave good news for you when we meet. Much love my dear & I do hope you are a bit rested — Will & I rejoicing in high tides & the full moon —
Jane & Isobella still here so we are not quite alone —
Love to Edward —
Affect. Clare

Madge is at home, much better but will have to go slowly from now on —

"Birkenhaw"
Mitis Beach
Sept 25th 1949

Dearest Lois –

The little fire burns bright & the room has a cosy & comfortable look, despite of its many discrepancies, & I am enjoying the peace which descends on Mitis in late Sept. This year we have not been fortunate in autumn weather – the summer had been so fine, that I suppose the rain had saved up, & we have had the longest spell I ever remember, of dull, dreeping days – sometimes still has been hard put to it to keep the small store in the hall, & the fire place, supplied with dry wood, but on the whole we have been comfortable, & although it has been disappointing not to be able to carry out, & finish up work on the property – it has been wonderful to be able to read, & spend, & sort up, for closing generally – then for companionship we have had Jane & Isobella – Jane back from England & the continent, & full of interesting news – They usually come over at tea time

& incidentally we have always had it indoors, a new regime for Debs. last year until Oct. we were on verandah or lawn - but we get down to the shore, to marvel at a very high, or a very low tide, but each night when we look at the sky it is like black velvet, not the glimmer of a star -
Jane & Isobella leave tomorrow I follow on Friday the 30th so will be back the 1st & settled in, I hope before Grace arrives - Evan seems to be full up with Ronalda living in - so I have written to his Club, to see if there is any chance of a room there for Grace I very much doubt it, at this time of year they have always been more than full. They are to let me know. I am sorry not to ask Grace as a guest but I cannot, but am more than willing, to have her put up for a room, if it is possible - I am sure she is much in need of change, & a rest, & will do

what I can to make it pleasant for her - Penelope said she was quite able to pay for her mother at a Hotel - but with this economic crash & all the devaluations, it is hard to know just where anyone stands - What a setting that must have been in Washington, I read Cripps speech with interest, & appreciation, & then Lippmann's pointing out all the weak spots! - We cannot help feeling that they were all desperate, & really decided very little, but as a step in some direction, decided to begin with devaluation - This is all what Mr Springett has been talking about for several years!? Penelope wrote to me about her engagement, & the man in question, sounded very nice, but I would like to know what you think of him - Of course he is just starting but I have never thought very much of national Gibson lawyers as a permanent position - but he may hope for better things -

My dear - I understand so well just how you feel at this time of year especially - transplanted

to an Irving Forver so suddenly with everything changed - divorced from most of your life, & interests, & yet thankful to be still with the central Pivot — It is all rather like a story, but it is late in life to have the story even ~~strong~~ strong, ones roots having twined around so many rocks, uprooting is difficult, even of transplanted, to a garden - there is something so utterly different about Old Beaverside, to anything in our lives, that it must take a good deal of assimilation — But it so definitely seemed the right road for you to take, that I feel something very precious will come out of the venture, with great compensations - I am so deeply thankful that Harvey seems to be working in well, it will make things much more possible - & oh how thankful you must be to have (even with excursions) a plentiful &

permanent water supply - How busy Edward must have been over this & many other things - but it is a really big job for him to see to, & it is not easily achieved. - I have been thinking of us lately as a family, & have felt that most of us have imagination which visualizes the pros & cons, of a new situation, which is in a sense an advantage, but also something which arrests us in plunging into ventures which brave pioneers would always go towards - Yet the creative spirit within has always been turbulent within us, when there was no possibility of outlet, but with time, & quiet, it could develop into something of a contribution to life - but so often it had to be thwarted - I do believe there are many without this creative urge - & they are usually those who must always be with people & ideas which they live on - & the way is easier for them. - What a collection you are gathering with a cook, with a child, & all the

rest - does it mean the Man & Wife have departed? or are they deceased or promoted -? So much to hear - it would be lovely to have a Harrington Sutherland meeting of it works yet -

Will is better than in the summer for which I am thankful, but I hate closing the door on him, & to see his distress when I take down a curtain, or try to do anything which speaks of a parting - He is going to Rs Deikle above the Post Office, & as she has got central heating put in, ought to be more comfortable than last year - We still have such lovely flowers - I wish you could have seen the front bed by the veranda beside the steps. First a row of English Daisies - then yellow Incanesica - then Chinese Forget-me-nots (very successful) African Daisies & then Marks wood - The bed to right of gate with Phlox (from your Lil & Stevens) has flowered as never before - but our glory has mostly been since everyone

left, as things come out so late. We are still striving for more sunshine & have taken down more trees, but our neighbours now overshadow us —

The fire burns low & I must say good night — but thought you might like a response to your very nice letter — much love to Mrs Winslow — the way must be a bit hard for her, too at times — although the lack of memory may make it easier —

Love to you & Edward.

as always from Clare.

P.S. Do you remember Elizabeth Hancocks shawls that she knitted for Grandmother, (Scotch wool with little bops) well I have been living in one, & blessing it — ? the warmest thing next to a furnace.

3492 Peel St.
Dec 26th 1949.

Dearest Iris –

You were indeed not out of sight, out of mind, I can assure you, on Xmas Day – but I must tell you how the Xmas spirit was carried on, & well established, by your valiant children – On Saturday, we had Will & myself, & Crisdall, for 1 o'clock dinner, & we did so enjoy it, the children just making the occassion – We let them open our gifts, & so had the pleasure of seeing them play with them. Then on Sunday Will & I had dinner with John & Isobel, & Marjorie Norman. Isobel giving us a marvellous meal, with a perfectly cooked turkey, & a plumb pudding that Grandmother

world have praised, & all the letters - but you will hear all about everything from the arrivers & children - Dave had Eva, & Mickey, & Evelyn, there Sunday night & I was so pleased, as Eva was thrilled to go somewhere, especially with Mick & Evelyn - Eva has not been well enough to plan or think of Xmas entertainment at home - Will & I did go in to see Saturday afternoon & saw them all then - certainly Evelyn & Mick are a grateful pair, & it is a pleasure to give them everything - It is a joy to see Mickey taking such an interest in his leisure home, & opening out wonder the unexpected kindness of gifts - When one thinks of the road that lad has travelled the long roug'n war years, & all the rest, one can only hope & pray that he has reached port

& last – But I must not ramble on – This was to be a short but very very grateful thank you letter – the fragrance of the lavender soap is with me (I love lavender) & the lovely tray cloth, & most elegant pot holders will indeed be useful at Christmas – my dear you should not have given me so many things – but again I say thank you – & Peter will has told me of the wonderful & "swell" sporting shirt you sent – which I hope to see soon – he is very pleased – Will has arrived fit & in very good form – alert in mind & outlook – Today we lunched together & then went to an English movie "My Brother Jonathan" as it was raining we could do nothing out of doors – I do hope some sunshine comes for New Years – I am sure your Xmas day passed happily as

you were doing for others, but
stop of you can for a breather
before the next leap, for you
will have fun I am sure.
Much love & a very Happy
New Year to you, & the
good Edward —
affectionately Clare —

1905 - 1967

Letters from Lois W.S. to brother William (Bill) Harrington

E. W-S to William on religion

Several of 1909

a few - written during Second World War.

" one " " Clares last illness

Letters from Clare Harrington to sister Lois'

Sunday —
Dec. 5th/09.

My Dear Will —

I was very glad to get your letter, I certainly will help you to get your Xmas presents —

You say you want to be good and sweet to mother when you come back, and I'm sure you do —

Do you know the

thing that will help to make her enjoy herself more than anything? That is for you (1) To obey her quickly (2) Not to lose your temper - to try and make up your mind to do these two things like a man - and I am sure you will as well mother enjoy your holiday much better.

It will be very nice

to see you again, and as you say I am sure we will both find each other altered - I hope for the better.

We must have lots of fun these holidays mustn't we? ——

I have been frightfully busy lately. with all kinds of things.

Please Dear Will excuse this awful

4.

School.

Remember me to Mr Tuckey, and tell him I hope he is feeling pretty well —

Lots of love to yourself.

from your affectionate Sister

Lois —

55 Aberdeen Avenue
Westmount, Que.

May 11th/43

My dearest Bill

I was very glad to have your letter this morning & to know that you are well & happy — you were undoubtedly right that May 1st — 6th were to be very important days, in fact they were the days set aside for the big

S - U - R - P - R - I - S - E !!

of our lads will get back. Some time within the next few months - Donald & Cos should be among the first —

Brackenzie King seems to be making a very good showing at the conference he is a very conscientious & hard working man - Alice & I thought that the speech he made on Friday day was the finest that was made having the King of Russia - this government has made a fine job of the war, with the exception of the conscription issue which is still a somewhat debatable question yet as I do not think that all underlying facts are yet available. I do not like the C.C.F. & I do not think that Brackenzie is a true gentleman in his heart so I

it is simply wonderful that the german war so ghastly & awful is over - They are showing movies of the awful concentration camps in Germany at the theatres here, and it leaves no doubt as to what we have been fighting for - I have not seen these pictures yet but Alice & Mary say they are too awful for words, it is unthinkable that any humans could treat other human beings in such a bestial & awful manner -

We are hoping that some

will not vote for him — So I guess that just leaves Mack. enjoy Kig to vote for. I think that a change of government is often a good thing — but at this critical time I think it would be most foolhardy to hand it over to inexperienced people who have not the experience of political régime to keep us out of many difficulties. Well we will see ??

I retired to bed on Tuesday evening after all the victory celebration & have been here since thoroughly miserable with a bad throat — I am on the mend now I hope — the sun is out today the first time in weeks — !!

This is all I can write for now. I do earnestly hope that the Japs may be destroyed by divine helps — the American have been pretty fine in Europe and I hate to think of their having to go out after the Japs now — Well my loves Bon chance!

affectionately Lois.

Feb 22nd/45

55 Aberdeen Ave
West Mount

My dear Bill

Many thanks for your charming letter received yesterday, in which you pay me so many fine tributes, indeed I feel on a pedestal – whether I really deserve it or not I do not know? – it is very nice any way to feel that anyone has such a high regard for you –

I thought that your paragraph about the four seasons and life was very good – I hope

that the millennium comes before we are out of the Autumn class. I have so much I want to do and apparently so little time to do it in it makes one feel sad! and you to my boy better get on with your book which I feel is going to make very interesting reading —!

It is raining hard to day and extremely slippery out so though I had promised to go & visit Anne I have decided to stay in, as I do not care to take a seat as I would surely do if I went out..!!

I had a very happy birthday

partly last week when Edward took me out to dinner with me four little girls: it was just too lovely to have them all together again — Alice & Anne are going up north next week. I will be glad for little Anne to have a change as I think she must be very worried about Donald just now — It is awful to think of what these poor lads are in for — If Christ would only return and be our guide, how wonderful it would be — it seems sometimes as if the war was going on for ever — If people would only

get themselves good, I am sure it would help — but 'may be that things are headed for the last round — I do hope so —

I had tea with Eva & Tin yesterday and Eva & I did some ornament changing which improved her rooms! — Edward & I are having dinner with the Byers on Saturday which will be pleasant. —

I am baking some pottery to day and must now run down and look after it —

So glad that you are feeling well & fit — it won't be long now till you are grubbing in the ground — !!

Lots of love dear

affectionately Lois.

5 S. Aberdeen Ave
Westmount
Feb 26th/44

Dearest Bill.

I hope that you are feeling well again now - that grippe certainly takes it out of you - many thanks for your many nice letters for which my appreciation is due - Life is very busy here with one thing and another - never a dull minute - what with letters parcels - cooking - sewing etc etc. and I have been trying to do a little with my pottery with some luck - I have not seen Clare lately but

speak to her in the telephone.
We had a cable from Alice
several days ago, which we
were thankful to get after all
the awful raids — a letter
too, from John which was very
bright — but it gave us not
the slightest idea where he
was — but we heard from Alice
that he had spent a week end
with her — and they had had
a very happy time together —
We also heard that Eric
had seen John. that he was
in Johns corvette for a
party near England somewhere

from England

Harrington

3. $

I am enclosing $1.00 for you
If you can spend the extra
$2.00 on something that you
need with my love.

It is hard to tell what
is happening in world
events — but it looks as if
Germany were gradually
being worn down by our
air raids. I wonder if there
will ever be an invasion?
and I wonder why Rome is
not taken more quickly?

Edward had a friend from

Ottawa with him for the week-end - and we had a nice time

Hart is coming from Ottawa tonight & leaves on Friday for Gaspe where he has been posted - Perhaps your friends there could help him find a place where he could have Ruth & the baby.

Well my love must close now - as I must get ready for dinner - Watch & Spray!

Much love dear

Lois.

Ref. to John Winslow Sprague to R.C. NAVY
" " DONALD BYERS R.C.A.
" " Cicely and 4 children
EVACUATED FROM ENGLAND AND lived WITH L.W.S + E.W.S for most of WAR YEARS.

Como P.Q.
Sept 4th/41.

My dear Bill

It was such fun seeing you at Metis, we wished it could have been for longer but Edward was anxious to get where he could have some sea bathing – we had a delightful time there the sand + water were most delectable – I am delighted to think that you have been having such a nice change and in such

a lovely spot — 2. Is Kate's daughter married, and has she children etc. I used like to hear more of your trip, what you did etc. I liked the very pretty post card you sent, for which I now send thanks —

I have just finished opening my house in town in order to have the house ready for my English children who are with me again — Cecily has been teaching herself to cook and is looking after the work till I find a cook — I intend staying on in Como for a little.

Anne showed me the two letters that you had written to her, reach Bill they were sweet and they touched her greatly — The prophesies do not seem clear at present but do not loose your faith like "doubting Thomas" You must remember that hundreds of years have elapsed since ~~that~~ they were written and there are bound to be some changes according to what mankind has done —

What if Germany + Russia become stale mates? May not Russia join us yet? and join up

with Germany to raid Syria Turkey and Palestine? astonishing! but chew that over in your cud! — of course I know nothing but an anxiously waiting — Surely something must happen soon. The sorrow in the world is so great! —

Anne has gone back to town and would leave anytime. The husband of Annes best friend Barbara Hampson is reported missing over France. (Jimmie Alexander) Her baby is the bright spot on our horizon now —

Will you write a line to John I will enclose his address he would love to hear from you.

Much love old Tops. must off to bed.

Lois.

2 Parkside Place
Montreal 25, P.Q.

June 17th/67.

My dearest Bill.

I feel rather sad and weary tonight, it is very hard to go and see our dear Clare, and find her getting thinner & thinner with a beautiful patient look on her face. Today she knew me several times, and opened her eyes and smiled at me - She tried to say something, but I could not catch what it was - Once when her eyes were open, I showed her your card with the poppies on it, & told her it was for you, she smiled & looked happy, I think she realized it was for you - I don't know how long this can go on for, but I hope that the good God will take her soon. for I am so afraid that she might begin to have real pain, if she goes on much longer - You

tulips made her happy - though I did not see her when she first got them - they seemed to last for quite a long time. - There are still 2 or 3 in the vase -

Now don't let my remarks depress you we can do nothing more than we are doing - and this is the way of life -

Mrs Leslie was here yesterday, and she told me that she had written to you. She also told me, that she would be glad to take you for several days, if you should be here during the next week - she goes to Toronto on the 28th I think. I thought it a very kind offer - but I do not know if it would appeal to you -

We have just completed a whole week of dull, moist rainy weather - I had Grace with me in Algonquin for several days, and it was so miserable, that we were not able to sit out once - She is with Penelope now - & flys to England on Tuesday 20th

Eva is away for the weekend at 6 Ka. I am glad she has gone, as I think that she needed a change - She has had a long siege with her leg -

I suppose that you are watching all the news reports carefully - Just heard that China has set off her first atomic bomb. This has come as a great shock to the nations, and I expect especially so to Russia + U.S.A - Now that the Russian Premier is in New York - hoping to do great things, this may dampen his ardour - !! I think surely that all these things must be leading up to the Armageddon - Russia may get mad, because the other nations will not say that Israel is the agressor - and she may then decide to suddenly destry Israel herself - but at this point, we

cannot tell. ???

I think I told you before that Ed & Isabelle are moving into my house by the gate - but first we are making some alterations - which were begun yesterday.

I do not know how long I will stay here - it is hard to tell. I do not like to leave, if I think that Clare is happy just having me sit beside her - one can only go a day at a time.

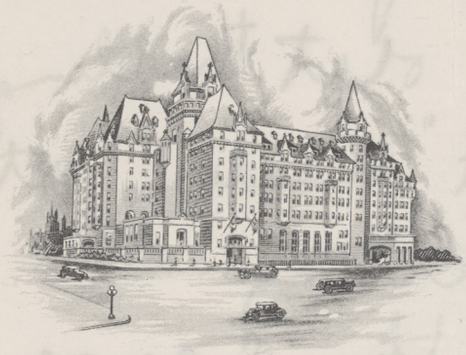
Well dear, I hope that leg is not too dull for you. I wonder if Con & Joan are down there this week end? I tried to get them on the telephone, but they were away? where I do not know -

Must not write more now.

Much love

affectionately

Louise,



CHATEAU LAURIER

OTTAWA, ONT.

Sunday Evening
12th Sept 1943

My dear Bill

I was delighted to get your letter of the 5th which reached me here on the 7th.

I have not yet forwarded an order to Simpsons but will get around to it before long. What proportion of the total order I decide to put through now will depend on how the world looks to me at that particular time but I promise I will not stop at the putty knife.

Nora and I still talk about you and about Metis and the splendid holiday we had there.

Today we had a visit from Anne and Barbara. I was out trolling but was wetting a gut "leader" at the same time by letting it hang over the side of the canoe.

As I returned empty handed to the dock and began reeling in my line Barbara was kneeling down on the dock quite excitedly and Anne said "Is it possible there is a fish on this other line that Barbara has and so there was and Barbara was credited with her first fish — a rock bass which I fried for my evening meal before catching my train for Ottawa.

Last night Lou + I had a game of rummy and she beat me. Galt McCombe + his wife drove

me home from the station on Saturday at lunch time after I had spent the morning in town paying my Sept 30th income tax installment and seeing my Mother & Father who had not seen me since my visit to Metis.

On Friday I spoke to your friend Wilfrid Bovey in the Hall of the Hotel. I also saw Dr George Stephens, the head of the Royal Victoria Hospital.

I am interested to hear of the progress you are making with the

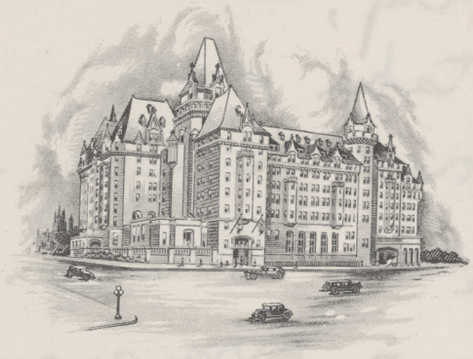
work. I am sure it will be very nice and a pleasure to Clare. Clare must have had a shock when those two buildings at the hospital St. Anne's Military Hospital were burned. I am glad they were not the ones containing her library but I would not be surprised if some of her flowers were trampled.

You talk about Church. Church I think is like any other organization, in that it needs something more than theoretical support. I am told that Christ said

"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in Heaven"

"When two or three are gathered together in my name I will grant their requests"

The church is an organization with two main purposes.



CHATEAU LAURIER

OTTAWA, ONT.

S

First. To organize and encourage the worship of God.

Second To organize and encourage its members, as a body, and privately to help all those who are in need of help – by reason of sickness, ignorance or any other cause.

I believe Christ started his Church and started it with these two main purposes.

Just as every man should (if he can) join the Army and show which side he is on; just as every man should vote and set an example to careless fellows who might

otherwise become a majority, — so I believe every one should take every opportunity he can of going to public worship — not to indulge his love for music or to hear hymns or sermons but to worship God in public and thereby not only benefit himself but what is equally important, — to show which side he is on and to set an example to careless fellows, to young children and to encourage, by his presence, the poor fellow in the pulpit who in a moment of self denial gave up the possibility of a comfortable prosperous life and accepted the discouragements and the poverty of a servant of Christ's organized Church, whom so many people feel they may criticise or neglect.

Looked at properly and broadly it is

Christ Church one is staying away from. It is Christ's ministers, whom one is discouraging. It is not the Anglican or the Presbyterian or the Catholic Society or their representatives. They are each trying in their own way to carry out the two main purposes for which Christ started them off. And it is just as foolish for us to assume that all but one are wrong as it would be to assume that there is a heaven for the inhabitants of one nation but no heaven for anyone else.

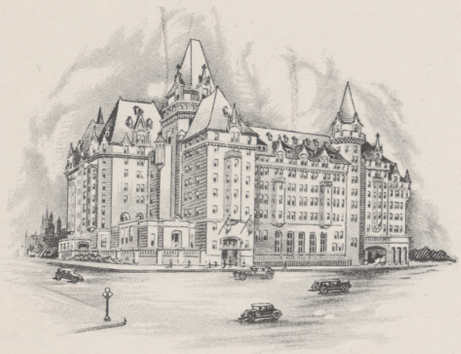
"He who is not for me is against me saith the Lord"

Get on the Bandwagon Bill! That's the advice your mother would give you if she were here although her words would be more polite.

When a thing is hard or disagreeable I sometimes do it. Why? Because I am so afraid that if I <u>don't</u> do it, the real reason may be that I'm lazy or don't <u>like</u> hard or disagreeable things. And so, although I could find lots of reasons, I play safe by doing the thing. It probably pleases his and it probably is right!

I am glad your temporary quarters are so nice.

You say you would like to put in writing some of your stories. I say – Go ahead – do it. Some of the finest tales that have ever been written are no longer than your letter or mine. His & I



CHATEAU LAURIER

OTTAWA, ONT.

would gladly help you if you wish by proof reading or editing.

You say for example

— "and actually built a stone wall, along the north side, and lasted for a few hours, but due to a small place to put hours, but due to a small place to put a part of it fell in etc etc."

Same, a part of it fell in etc etc.

The use of this word "Same", which was common a few years ago, is now obsolete and its use should therefore be avoided

I will pass your letter along to Lois and to Eva so that they may each take care of the items relating to themselves,

Yours affect'y

Edward Winslow Spragge

P.S. Let me know when you go to Church EWS

A very good letter from
Edward S. Winslow-Spragge
to
Bill Harrington

concerning religion
etc.

Bernard Gibb Harrington
b. 1887 - d 1960
married Ethel Mary Jameson
from England.
b. 1886 - d 1973.

Their children were
Bernard Lee, David,
Clare and Lois.

B. G. H. moved out West
to do fruit farming
in the Okanagan. The
family lived in Salmon
Arm B.C. where their
children were brought
up. Both B. G. H and his wife

suffered ill health at
a very early stage
in their lives
Consequently their lives
were difficult due to
no proper job and
bad financial situation
A close bond with
the sisters and brother
Bill ~~or~~ in the East
remained all through
their lives and a heavy
flow of letters continued
all through the years.
B.G.H and wife finally
moved to Victoria. B.C.

3940 Cedar Hill X Road
Victoria B.C.
February 15/50

Dear Edward & Lois,

How are you lucky people with your nice mild winter? Boys talk about cold for this part of the country & houses not built for it. We have had 52 inches of snow (but all gone now) At Courtney somewhere above Nanaimo they had 12 feet of snow. Burst water pipes toilets etc all over the place. Dozens of people around Cordova Bay Gorden Head & Uplands closed up their house & went into town to hotels till it was over.
We were lucky though in regards to fuel using oil of which there was plenty but my what a lot we used & we had our Kitchen stove & Coleman heater on day & night for five weeks & kept fairly warm except when there was a wind which seemed to go right through everything. Little piles of snow under doors & around windows. People using wood coal & sawdust for fuel were & are just having a very bad time of it. Now the frost coming out

of ground are heaving roads up all (2)
over the place & police are busy checking
up on people who have more than a 50° load
on or cars going more than 20 miles per hr
Our David is having a hard time. He got
a job in Prince George & went there early in
December with his family & had about two
weeks work with temperature running from
40 to 58° below Zero & had to have an
emmergency operation on his appendix on
New Years day. Had a line from him a
few days ago & he now has Infectious Jaundice
Our Clare says that brand is worse than the
ordinary kind. The Doc up there said he would
not put them on Quarantine because so
many people had had the same complaint
around there the past two years. We have
had to send along some of the necessary to
keep them going. We may get them all down
here. It will be quite a squeeze to put them up
here but may have to manage. E & I will
bunk in room in garage.
I noticed some of my toes turning a sort of
purple colour & E got after me to go see a
Doctor, so I did with the result that I am
suffering from lack of circulation in the
feet. I take 3 tablets daily of some sort of
new drug & have to lie on my back an
hour in morning & afternoon on bed &
raise my feet up in air. Two minutes
up & 2 minutes down with feet on the
floor & so on. They are coming along
slowely & Doc said that if after a
month or so they did not show a

marked improvement that I would have to go to hospital for some more drastic treatment.
I get so darn fed up. I had two months pruning all lined up & with the £ Sterling where it is I sure could do with the pruning. I hope we don't have to move out of this place but time will tell.
By the way did you good people receive a box of holly we ordered to be sent ~~to~~ along?
E is a different person since her operation last summer but of course the arthritis is still bothersome otherwise she is pretty fit. I am 26 lbs underweight but Doc said better that way than the other. The Doc told me that when I have an hours work to do to make it spin out to 3 hours. I might just as well Quit right now.
Well trusting you & yours all keeping in the Pink.

As ever
Bernard

March 25th/52
3940 Cedar Hill Road
Victoria B.C.

Dear Lois,

My how time flies. Thanks very very much for Birthday greetings & your nice check. It sure will come in handy around & about. About five weeks ago I figured it was up to me to try and rustle up some extra cash for some extra expenses that had turned up, so I put an add in the two local papers for pruning fruit trees. I was kept busy for about ten days. Here there & all over & around Victoria from one to 5 trees in peoples back yards. I charged $1.50 per hour, with a minimum of $3.00 per place & was enjoying myself altho pretty tired most of the time. The last two days I was at it, I ran into some of the biggest apple trees I had ever seen & in a terrible mess & I had a lot of climbing & cutting at

awkward angles etc. I got feeling kind of rotten inside. So went to see our Doctor & he bawled me out & said I ought to know better than tackle jobs like that etc. Anyway he looked me over & attached me to a machine called a cardograph I hope that is the way it is spelled & told me I had strained something or other & so mighty easy & not do anything strenuous & gave me a prescription for some pills or tablets & to lie down at times. Such is life. Between the toe & my adds there was not so much to show for my effort on pruning. You know when am outside enjoying working around the place one does not think about whether you are doing too much or not till you suddenly realize you have & so on.

Between times I have put in all the early vegetable seeds including spuds which I had well sprouted & I see to-day onion sets I had put in on the 15th are coming up.

& I put Clare cutting the grass

for the first time last week. Snowdrops & crocuses are all over & daffodils & Hyacinths are in full bloom also primroses pollyanthis & others. My spelling is not so hot as you will notice. A howling gale last nite & all day to-day with rain squalls & snow & darn cold, we have not had many really warm days this spring so far & very little sunshine.

We are playing around with the idea of selling this place maybe this fall. There are getting to be quite a few things that more & less need fixing up, like having house painted & some inside jobs in paint line etc & it is quite a job trying to keep up appearances outside & so many new houses going up right at our back & all around, it is not nearly so secluded as when we moved here. Cant go out in back yard or anywhere around without somebody or other having a good look at you if you know what I mean & most of all the floors are always cold with the result particularly Ethel of cold feet

which is not good for any of us. Next place will have to have a cellar with furnace. We could not run to these newer houses with no cellar, but steam heat under the floors. We have also had ideas of getting a duplex renting the other half to bring some extra in, but they are mostly a bit too expensive for our means & are usually in fairly crowded areas. Something or other so will crop up. I have heard for quite a few years back how the Royal Trust just hate to finish up estates & took it with a grain of salt, but now know how true it was. I tackled the assist manager of Royal Trust here one day a while ago about it & he simply said "We are in business" so that was that.

I hate to bother you, you are always so darn good, but would it be ok if you would send me along just a small piece of maple sugar. I sort of get a hankering every year around this time for a piece of it. You dont mind? We never see any of it in stores here. Will must close. Thanks muchly again, as ever

Bernard.

3850 Epsom Drive
Victoria B.C.

Dear Lois,

Please excuse paper. I dont know how tho to thank you kind people for the lovely sports coat which arrived a couple of days ago, it is a very good fit, I sure look like somebody with it on & then some.

Dua Clare is in Los Angles with another teacher nurse taking a six weeks condensed course in teaching. If they take this course for 3 years it is the equivalent of one year at a university. They went by buss & her letters have been full of all the wonders they have seen. This is the first time she has been out of B.C. She said nearly every thing in stores is cheaper or about the same as here except the food which is away higher. They got into a dress shop by mistake where everything was

from $200 up. They got out of there pretty quick. All sales girls so nice & polite & helpfull, quite a contrast to here where they dont seem to care a damn whether you buy anything or not.
This sure is a nice place, but one gets so sleepy they say it takes quite a time to get used to it.
Have been picking up the odd job around about. Haying weeding etc & hope to get some pruning after the new year. which will pay better. Been doing some gardening for S.K. Campbell Mgr Canadian Bank of Commerce, he used to be in Bank in Montreal.
Have quite a nice vegetable garden & some flowers, been eating new spuds & peas about two weeks now. E & I took a buss this A.M. & went to CORDOVA Bay & sat around the beach all day for a change. It takes us 15 minutes on a buss to get to town & nearest buss is ten minutes walk from our house Got a telephone in last week but only got it so soon because Clare is an R.N. & we got a note from Supt of nurses that it was necessary. Some people here have been waiting two years

2697 Lincoln Road
Victoria B.C.
October 20th/54

Dear Lois,
How goes it anyway. I dont know whether I mentioned it or not but you ~~could~~ remember my collecting cedar seeds while at Old Burnside (from Almonte, Ontario) along in front of house.
Well I now have 39 nice little trees comming along from that seed about an inch high. I also brought some spruce seed from Metis which is also up & doing well. Next time you see Mary please tell her that four of the sweet hickory nuts I picked up around the at Como are away up about 6 inches.
Had quite a gale here the past two days with lots of rain & such big waves breaking on the beach.
Many thanks for the book ~~we~~ received a short time ago. E is busy re covering an ~~quilt~~ old eiderdown for Louise's hickie
Clare is taking night classes on

Biology for about 6 months twice a week. She finds it pretty hard.
I hope Conrad & family were not in the worst of the floods around Toronto. I guess they were pretty bad from all accounts.
Manage to keep pretty busy with all kinds of fall work to be done around the garden. Had last of beans yesterday & also have nice lot of cauliflower coming along. Have been lucky as we have not had any frost yet to kill the tender things.
Please remember me to John & family
Lots of love to yourself
x x x x
Bernard,

2697 Lincoln Road
Victoria B.C.
Sept 12th/55

Dear Lois,
Just a line to thank you very very much for all your kindnesses to our Clare, she certainly appreciated all you have done for her & thinks you are a Peach.
Now there is just one more little thing that perhaps might be able to bring about & that is, find a good husband for her. but for heavens sake ~~no~~ dont let her know I said so.
Was out fishing a few days ago & dont know for sure but think it was a Salmon shark that grabbed my spoon & not only broke my line but also my rod right in half quite exciting for a moment. We saw several other sharks during the day.
Thanks again & a great big hug from your loving brother
Barney

Brother Bernard Harrington

Apr. 19th.

Dear Aunt Lois,

On page 6, of which I have included two additional copies, there is an article which I think will be of great interest to you. Very well done--.

The clippings are from the last two issues of the Salmon Arm paper -- comprise, I feel, a very worthwhile effort by Mr. Wilson. He is one of those I mentioned whom I want to send one of your books to. Have never met the gentleman but plan on doing so on one of the trips up there this year.

The place names will be of little interest to one not familiar with that part of the country but, as one who was raised there, I find them intensely so.

If Geoffrey Leech has not seen these I'm sure he would be very glad to do so.

The pictures of Mt. Baston I sent you were taken from Knalt Hill (first time I was aware of the spelling too). which reminds me of an incident concerning that hill when I was working in the garage at Salmon Arm. And you being a good girl I know you won't object too strenuously to the terminology. In those days Kault Hill, as we knew

it, was a real test for any vehicle & when wet was almost impossible. We had an old Scotty taxi driver, Sam Currie, who, on this particular day, pulled into the shop mud from top to bottom. His usual vernacular efforts would do credit to, if not surpass, the legendary mule skinner but the one remark I will never forget was "Laddie, I tell ye that if a chickadee had crapped on m' back bumper I mouldna made it."

Memories -- memories. There seems to be more of an awakening & appreciation of the works of those who preceded us. And very rightly so I feel. We should pause to reflect & be thankful for those who endured such hardships in overcoming the obstacles of laying a foundation for us.

So much more that could be said but must send this on its way while the moments are opportune. Do say "Hello" to that good looking boy in Almonte will you?

All well here -- phoned mother last night -- she seems to have perked up a little.

Hope you find everything "just so" at Almonte & have an enjoyable restful sojourn there.

With love

Bill

I met Mr. Andrews the Surveyor General & had a very pleasant & interesting chat with him. He has a profound respect for G. M. Dawson & a great admiration for you in not only having the interest & courage to embark on such a project but to successfully complete what he terms a very excellent book. Amen I say unto that. Do hope that you may someday meet him – you would have so much of mutual interest to discuss.

Dave had some business on the Island so we met in Vancouver -- got into Victoria around 9.30 P.M. -- spent a few minutes with mother then to the Empress Hotel to make my arrangements. Dave then stayed with mother for the next two days & had the car to attend to his commitments. He also took mother to a rest home & made arrangements should she become unable to carry on alone. Spent a few hours with her before leaving & then back to contend with more snow & etc. She is quite content with her new abode but is finding it increasingly difficult because her memory is becoming more erratic. There seems nothing more we can do except to carry on & hope her relative independence can be maintained.

Feb. 3rd. Making remarkable (?) progress am I not? Really must finalize this. Colder again & snowing quite heavily with a stiff N/E wind. Supposed to turn to rain by morning but – who knows?

Dec. 19th
Shortly after talking to you.

Dear Aunt Lois,

It always makes me feel so good to talk to you. And to hear Ed this time was an added pleasure. When I start on my second million will do it much more often —.

Your letter regarding Eric really stopped me in my tracks — been just "busting" to write ever since.

Briefly:— When I was waiting for Eric in his office the day he & Cou invited me to lunch I found myself feeling angry — so much so that it quite startled me as I am very slow to anger even when there is justification which certainly was not apparent then. Then it seemed that it was more indignation combined with concern or sorrow for Eric. Difficult to explain — had quite a time trying to sort myself out —. I didn't either.

Those feelings, impressions, or whatever they were continued to almost rock me. Never experienced anything like it before. When Eric came in I rose with a sudden & intense desire to help him (wondering why — knowing I couldn't — & — well, just what in blazes was going on ???)

As we walked around the block to join Cou I was again buffeted by anger (or was it indignation ??)

Re: Eric probably refers to termination of his job with Anglin Norcross.

& for a few steps, felt quite dizzy. Felt real concern about myself for a few moments & had one dickens of a time trying to appear & act my usual self. Have wondered since if I was successful & what those two thought of me as those associated feelings continued to impose on my objective faculties.

A glass of port reduced the impact & I began to feel quite relieved until Eric shrugged & gestured with his hands regarding a contract we were discussing & the urgent desire to help came foremost again. If I ever wanted to help anyone I wanted to help him - right then.

Almost stood up -- with a new feeling - the anticipation & joy of a good fight. Again - quite alien to me as I don't fight. ????!!!! However, that did straighten me out & it was much easier to be B.K.H. The balance of the time with them passed pleasantly.

Periodically since then I've felt a milder resurgence of the same feelings except that anger diminished with concern & the desire to help being foremost.

A totally new experience to me. One which has not been told to anyone except Ruth until now. The answer ??? Did it concern Eric's eventual parting or was it associated with that day? I'm more curious now & also wonder if his action was due more to principle than policy? I like that guy (western slang) & I rather think that the next time in the east it will be so arranged that we can both put our big feet up & hold forth to arrive at a partial answer.

That is very, very brief my dear. I hope you find it of interest & can understand why it was not mentioned before.

So much more I would like to say but must finish the cards & a few short notes.

Bless you & yours & my very best wishes to you all.

With love
Bill

Reference to meeting Bill's cousins in Montréal Conrad & Eric Harrington

Jan. 21st

Dear Aunt Lois,

Thank you for your newsy letter. I often wonder how things are & it is nice to hear. It was a surprise & a pleasure to note that the younger ones have, as a result of seeing the slides, been prompted to explore McGill. Yes, the more I think of that the better I feel about it. It will, to a varying degree, be of benefit to them & I hope a very positive & lasting one.

Am so glad you enjoyed the greens. From here it seems such a small token possibly because we always have them here. Now there is a classic statement! Yeh, as you can see from these photos, "always". We, occasionally, have to be reminded, it seems, that there is such a thing as snow. This year the season will not soon be forgotten. These were taken Xmas day after the first storm. We have since had considerably more -- 52" so far -- which any good Englishman would tell you is, for this part of the world, just not cricket! However we've back to rain again -- & copious quantities of smush. Have never had to do so much shovelling. Tis said its good exercise & one must watch one's waistline mustn't one??

The long range forecast calls for much more snow. Cheerful blighters aren't they? And to think of you with hardly any!

Imagine you saw some pictures of the slide but thought to supplement them with these. Biggest one in B.C. since the Frank slide in 1903 where there was only one survivor in a village of 66 people. That there were any casualties in this one is rather remarkable not only from the standpoint of those being warned but to have that many vehicles on any mile of that highway in the early hours of the morning in winter is considered quite unusual. Have been over that route with many a load but not in winter time or during the last few years since the Fraser canyon road has been completed. My unit is not equipped for snow work etc. in the hills & its going to stay that way unless the necessity arises —. The slide is only 70 miles from here so some week-end when the weather settles down we'll buzz up & have a look. A temporary road over the slide was opened yesterday & they estimate a permanent road will take at least a year to finish. In this rugged country such phenomena can be expected anytime — nothing much can be done about it though I do maintain that the promiscuous logging of mountain sides cannot but increase the danger.

Do we in the west like to be addressed as "Esquire"?

Well now! - I don't know, never occurred to me. Ummm. Just how does one answer such a question? Certainly the term is rarely used here. The emphasis seems to be on brevity & simplicity with which, in a sense, I agree. By far the greater percentage of my mail is just plain B. L Harrington with, again more often than not, not even periods after the initials. Such simple, obvious things which go relatively unnoticed! In retrospect I remember an accountant of a large firm extolling the savings resulting from having stenographers eliminate all possible punctuation marks. Appeared that the life span of typewriter ribbons was greatly increased. Don't remember the figures but do remember being impressed at the time.

And here it is the 31st! Been thinking off & on of the pros & cons of the above & have concluded that just plain Mr. B.L.H. — seems the most desirable. One wonders how long it will be till we're just a number-? More snow - 70" so far with steady rain the last few days. One could say that it is mild & correctly so but that would be far from doing it justice. Quite balmy though & we're all hoping it will continue. Been a real battle with many unexpected problems & lessons to learn. Will have to re-roof most of the shop & take quite a few other precautionary measures. Such is life -.

At the surveyors convention in Victoria on Jan 14-15th

Certainly the weather forecasters are more often wrong than right & we have become more or less resigned to being prepared for anything. All in good health so really cannot grumble. Keith was helping me in the shop until the middle of Jan. when he started at the airport (just a mile away) to assist in overhauling the radios & electrical equipment of the Avenger aircraft used to spray for budworm in New Brunswick in the spring & later as water bombers for the forestry throughout B.C. How long he will be needed remains to be seen but in the interim is thoroughly enjoying himself & gaining valuable experience. Dave indulged in a little snooping & find he is highly regarded by the rest of the crew which -- well -- it made said snooping very worthwhile --. Which leaves Father to carry on alone & that has been no great problem as Dec. & Jan. have been the lonesome months ever. Mother faithfully attends to the wittles & etc. & we generally & fairly frequently manage to make various & sundry recommendations that hopefully result in at least a bark - if not a bite.

Would like to chatter away indefinitely but must send this along in the form of at least some evidence. Find it (but not the mood) somehow very comforting to know that Aunt Clare & Uncle Bill are progressing & looking forward, once again, to Metis. To have

such an interest & desire from which so much pleasure & benefit may be derived is, tragically, so sadly lacking in so many of the older generation. May those two carry on to the full allotment of their time!

Please convey my kindest regards & suggest that, if they haven't entirely given up hope, to not be too shocked if - no - when they do get a letter from this questionable character -.

The slides arrived a few days ago -- haven't opened the package yet but I know they will be alright. Thank you. You're a good girl & I do hope you derived some pleasure from them.

You are all, as Barney used to say, "a good bunch".

As always

Bill.

Mar. 4/63.

Dear Aunt Lois,

How nice it was to talk to you -- & how wonderful it will be to carry on during a visit!

In the interim I will attempt to briefly answer your letter & hope that we will be able to catch up afterwards. Its going to be quite a job!

You asked about Keith. For now lets just say that he's a sensible lad, mature for 18, is considerate & thoughtful of others & has a sense of humor very similar to his grandfathers. In fact I know that if they were able to be together now they would, both in their quiet ways, hugely enjoy each other.

I have no hesitation in assuming you that whatever he does in life will be a credit to the Lannington name.

Yes, I have often wished that I could come for a visit -- much more particularly during the last six months or so. Had definitely planned on a trip sometime this year -- your letter finalized that.

I would certainly be interested in a biography of George Dawson & of any other member of the family for that matter. Actually, you know, I am woefully ignorant of all you good people & I

feel its long past time that was rectified —.
One thing I would like to do when there is to just stand for awhile under Sir William Dawsons portrait at McGill. Does that seem strange? Perhaps, but I think I can explain later. Would also like to take some photos of him & some of the museum exhibits. Have read "50 Years of Work in Canada" several times. Wonderful man.

We have had an exceptionally mild winter -- only a week or so with snow. Can well imagine you are looking forward to an end to yours & those poor souls in England & Europe -- what a trial that must have been!

Yes, I'm inclined to agree with you re "Dief the Chief" but — Oh, this is no time to start talking politics —.

Mar. 6.

Yesterday I severed the end of my thumb but hope that, by slowly carrying on, I can keep this reasonably legible. One point I feel must be mentioned & that is the matter of accomodation during my stay there. This is only conjecture but, by way of explanation, I'm assuming that your situation may be somewhat similar to mothers' in Victoria. Her small apartment can suffice for one or two extra but, & this is my point,

I know that, at times, even a minor change of routine can be rather trying. I feel very strongly that such a situation should be avoided. I have often tried to impress upon her that she has done her share & that she richly deserves the rest & quiet due her -- that its just not cricket for us or anyone else to, in a sense, take advantage of her. She, being a mother, takes exception to that -- "why its just unheard of" & etc. Well, perhaps, but we get a room anyway before we see her & then have a good spat all over again —. Now, as I said, this is conjecture, but, in your case I feel I must suggest that if such an arrangement would be more suitable then by all means let us do so. My world is quite different from yours & I dread the thought of being in the least "trying" to you. There, that is off my chest. & come what may, I know we will manage splendidly.

There is another factor which will alter plans to a certain extent while I am there. A young fellow from here who I thought was in Toronto is in Montreal with the CBC. He lost his father & wife within the last year, is away from home for the first time & as you can imagine, is having rather a difficult time. We have known the family for years -- my visit will be a complete surprise & I'm really looking forward

to that - being able to help the lad. It may be necessary to stay a day or two longer -, if so, well -- so be it. There may be another good feature in that as when I'm with him you would have a chance to relax ??

Which reminds me - would give you another opportunity. In "wishing to tread in my fathers footsteps" there would be at least one occasion when I would like to be alone in or around one of his favorite haunts. Am I being selfish? Hope not -- its so difficult, at times, to express oneself in this way. However, I know you will understand.

In checking on transportation I find that CPA is cheaper than TCA -- so the former it will be. Arrival time would be 10.45 P.M. your time which is rather late. Would it be easier for you if I got a room for that night? Please now, don't let me be too much of a bother -- even if it is "unheard of".

Don't know yet when I can get away but it will not be until the latter half of this month. Is there a time within that period that would be more suitable for you? So many details but they will all find their place - result in an absolutely wonderful time.

Must attend to the 1000 1 items here -, for now.

leave things in your good hands.

Been wondering for a moment what had been forgotten – remembered your kind offer of Life's Nature Books. We must be referring to the same ones – an issue of 20 to be forwarded periodically? We have 3 so far & have found them very worthwhile. Thank you anyway – I'm sure you will find someone who will appreciate them.

That will have to be all for now.

Bless you for your efforts.

With Love

B. Lee.

Dear Billy – The subject of religion seems to bother you & as I read this paper, it occured to me it would give you an up-to-date picture of what is going on in this day & age. I find all the changes in the various churches quite exciting & a vast improvement.

Religion is no longer a taboo subject of conversation but quite popular among people of all faiths.

During Lent the Eng., United, Presbyterian & Catholic churches of S.A. each host a service or two & have a guest minister preach – Followed by a social cup of tea deal – Everyone beams at everyone else & there is a great feeling of fellowship – So different from days gone by – Clas

RR1 Abbotsford
Feb 15/75

Snooks

Thankee for note and copy of Western Catholic Reporter. Above date indicates only the start of an attempt to answer. In between everything else this is going to take awhile to summate -- . You say that, as I seem to be 'bothered' by religion, I should know what is going on and be aware of the weekly get togethers etc. An opinion shared by one other, Lois. Any time I mention religiom you two are determined that I am 'bothered', am 'dragging up the past', or otherwise not going along with what you think I should do -- or something. Well, regardless of that, as I progress in portraying and answering you I'm going to 'bother' around from the past to the present - with the admonition re the past - how else do we learn and benefit (hopefully) than by assessing the experience of those passed on? You say you find the changes in the various churches quite exciting and a vast improvement and that religion is no longer a taboo subject of conversation but quite popular among people of all faiths. 'Changes?' Doresay you are familiar with the original tenets and dogma of the catholic church? Should you review them, if necessary, can you relate them, basically and generally speaking, to 'change'? To the best of my knowledge, so far, you cannot. Change there will have to be, certainly, it is one of the fundamental laws of nature and it will occur despite what we mortals try to dictate to the contrary. Further to that it has been only a relatively few years since the much publicized effort (?) of the Anglicans and the United to combine. There is no doubt that, initially, the intent was shared by a goodly number of sincere and well meaning individuals who were 'quite excited' over the prospect. That may still be shared by some. Are they any closer to fruition????? Lets face it. 'Taboo' Why did religion have to be that? Or any other subject for that matter? There is no doubt that it was and, to an extent, still is. Merits some thinking about --- . This relatively sudden upsurge of 'feeling and fellowship' is, while a good sign, a result of being compelled and a sense of desperation due to declining church attedance all over. (There are individual, localized, variations but overall that is what has been and is happening). In part - To Whit - last summer listened to a 2 hour interview with two priests from Loyale University in Chicago who had undertaken a two year survey of the situation in USA. Their conclusion, in so far as church is concerned. was that, in '73, the decline had been 'Catastrophic'. They were very fair and very concerned - were trying to find, as so many are, the answer. A difficult and complex problem. In like vein, also last year, listened to an interview with an ex priest who had been a padre in Vietnam. He said that, as a man, he could no longer stomach the blessing of bombing missions, the absolution of those involved in that and other activities of that most sordid of enterprises. He too was very fair but he pulled no punches in his assessment of the underlying causes of that fiasco - why the French and then Uncle Sam moved in - who owned a major portion of the Mekong Delta - the mineral rights thereof - primarily the Vatican - with joint interests of USA, Britain, and France. No phantasy there - he had the figures - which are available elsewhere - . But which I'll give you ten to one you did not see in any Catholic publication. He was, at that time, on a lecture tour of the U S. Bet you didn't know of that either - ex Father McBain - or, if you did, was it in the format of that scathing editorial denunciation of a few years ago afforded Father Fournier of Edmonton? Wondered what you thought of that???? Entirely typical of the 'modus operandi' that still, but of necessity to a lesser extent, still applies to the 'church'.

No longer can the onerous measures of the past be applied. People everywhere, now, are much more aware of what goes on - thanks to the technology of modern communication. In so far as so called western civilization is concerned lets go back a bit and try to determine some of the causes of why people act the way they do. Council of Nicea - 325 A D. Was not that when the 'church' was founded? - when the concept of heaven, hell, the in-a-between joint, confessional and so on were drafted up? Why the 3 century lapse in implementing (?) the words of Jesus? Was it because that people then were becoming unruly and it was necessary to apply an effective measure of control? Was it around then that the library of Alexandria was almost totally destroyed along with any and all other available evidence contrary to that which was to be promulgated? Like Jesus being an adept of the Essene Brotherhood? Of him spending some time in the monasteries of Tibet? Of his visit with the Nootkas of the west coast, the Navahos and Pueblos of Arizona etc? Could well be a most interesting and worthwhile project for you to ask the library for the book 'He Walked the Americas'. Then - the Crusades. An attempt to? Subsequently was there ever a more infamous example of mans inhumanity to man than the 300 years of the Inquisition? Enter Luther, Webster, the Reformation etc. More of, though on a lesser scale, of the persecution of those who would not go along. Even then - the result of people being able to take just so much guff -- . Back home - North America. During the initial exploration and westward trek do you know of the 14 Jesuits who opted out, not being able to stomach the attempted desecration of Indian culture? Levesque, Flahert Dominic, Steele, Donahue - to name a few that come to mind. Ably and wel chronicled and documented by Ernest Thompson Seton. Others not so affected carried on sincerely and with the best of intentions to indoctrinate and 'save the souls' of 'savages'. The result is only now really starting to become apparent - care to try Harold Cardinals book 'The Unjust Society'? Was one of the items on the agenda in the recent India trek to Ottawa that which requires them and the Eskimos only to, when in court, answer first which church they attend and who their priest is? Did the news media mention that at any time? Wonder why?? Are you of th opinion that the church, politics and finance are not a triumvirate? Incidentally the so called riot was definitely not started by Indians as we were told. I am well acquainted with a white man who accompanied them. Which brings us to a few months of the present - after a fashion - find it doggone difficult to try and maintain a sequence when have to stop and start so many times. In going over, once more, what I said note that one item 'change' needs further comment. You have seen a few - Friday fish - English mass - certain marriage requirements altered etc etc. Individual reaction has varied from disquieting - disturbing to - no problem. Don't know where you fit in but if you were in the least disturbed it would be well to bear in mind that, so far, just a few incidentals have been kicked around - of necessity. The nitty grit of that whole deal has yet to come out and unless those concerned are able to at least partially remove the blinders it will be a rough and devastating experience for them. You, in relating your present ecumenical efforts, are a part of the process which will inevitably have to involve a great deal of give and take, the elimination of intolerance, and an understanding that will transcend the centuries of intercine rivalry, dissension, and open warfare that has, by and large, characterised the activities of churchianity. That is not Christianity. We haven't seen that yet in the true sense and meaning. Just reflect on how often you are extolled to uphold the 'church'. Awhile back I mentioned 'cause'. Have just, in part, covered some of that.

The concept of 'Do as I do and think as I think or you've had it Buster' that has been the criterion for so long is on the way out and rightly so. Can you be your brothers keeper if you are the 'only' one who is right? We live in what is largely a Mennonite community. There is a good deal to admire in them. Originally one sect established themselves here. In roughly 30 years how many now? I don't know other than there are several and in talking occasionally to members of which one I haven't a clue find that it is almost the unanimous opinion that such nonsense should be dispensed with. Just because God said this or God said that according to varying interpretations of the scripture should be no reason for building another church and feeling sorry for or looking down on others or for any one to attempt to arbitrarily dominate the other. So true - such is gradually registering - have to make it someday. Boy! I bounce around don't I? So far from, as one might say, the other side of the fence, I have touched on a few items that, from another viewpoint, could be construed as negative or bitchy. Not at all meant that way in that there is no doubt that religion has been and is a comfort and solace to many and many have been the better for. Depending on the individuals developement. I'm not downgrading nor any adherent of - but there has to be a balance. In all nature (created by?) there is and have to be two opposing factors - essentially positive and negative but - call it what you may. The Chinese symbols of Yang and Yin are a perfect expression of that. It simply cannot be, as has so often been attempted, all one way. In my way of expressing you may find fault with or take exception to some things I have said. If you do I must ask you to hold off a little - volumes have been written on every few lines of this - I could fill pages with more - I haven't the time nor the ability to convey in this manner a minute part of what I would like to. Quite a few years ago I took the journey that you are now embarking on. Its not an easy one. But - we cannot stagnate - there has to be advancement - change. (Doggone it - that, in itself, merits pages) But can't so - well - what? The result comprises a sense of freedom that has to be experienced to be appreciated. In that context - Look, kiddo, in which ever way youwish to turn, or in whatever manner you wish to investigate and learn there is nothing, except yourself, to stop you. You do not, repeat, do not have to listen to nor abide by the dictums of priest, minister, or rabbi. When it comes right down to it - why the hell should you? You are you are you not? One of Gods children? Think it over. Should there be and Boy!, can there be, objections or outright condemnation just stand up on your own hind two feets. Could even parry with 'What do you get when you hang a bell on a camel? A Humpdinger. Got to get to the paper you sent. Top caption - front page. '1975 - week of prayer for christian unity'. Snooks. Has there, since day one, been christian unity? How often, over the centuries, has the same theme been expounded? Come, come, girl, you've got enough between your ears to see through that one -- . Next caption - 'Free in Christ' 'For by the death of Christ we are set free and our si are forgiven. Eph. 1.7' Good Lord!!!!! Without pages of the why and wherefore of that one will just make a statement and indulge in one request. Statement. Nobody, repeat, nobody, 'dies'. Request. Look u and, impartially, determine what is meant by 'Vicarious Atonement' Have, albeit briefly, gone through rest of publication. You say I shou be aware of what is going on. This is, essentially, the same old stuf but of increases tempo. More along the lines of Pentacostal, Nazarene and other fundamentalist endeavors who are desperately trying to maintain the 'status woe' while, in the not so obvious background, are goi to rope in all converts possible -- . On the other hand more and more are finding that religion is not the answer and are searching for

whatever is. Nothing that new relative to these sporadic outbursts of attempted cooperation by the sharing of views, doctrines etc. One would think that such would and should be beneficial. To a limited extent it is but the record of overall achievement is dismal - in fact its pr actically nil - inasmuch as more and more 'religions' have been formed. In other words the old concept of churches and nations of 'Divide and Rule' has been and still is, but to a lesser extent, the criteria. 'Unite and Operate' has yet to be fulfilled. The inherent structure of church and politics practically preclude that. There again - good gosh - one could fill pages. However, Snooks, I've got to wind this up. While in no way demeaning your present activity and intent - rather - Congratulations I must, in all sincerity, draw on experience and submit the only way you will achieve, in the final analysis, your desire of cooperation or 'The Brotherhood of Man' is as an individual or one of a group of individuals sharing the same goal but completely divested from the influence of religion per se. You will have to separate the wheat from the chaff. Bear in mind and further determine what is meant by 'As I do so can ye also and more'. Have only tried, in this limited way, to provide some other aspects for your consideration - being very aware that I may have repeated myself - that more than likely what was said could have been much better said - but hoping that it may assist you in sorting out a most complex problem. 'Unlearning' is much more difficult than learning - depends on how even a keel you can maintain or what you are suddenly confronted with. I certainly don't know all the answers. Who does? Please pass this on to Lois or, if suitable, hash out between you what big bad brudder has come up with this time.
Finale thought. Barney and Lee used to tell me 'Don't let it bluff you' A Hungarian expression - Nugi Nugi --------'Take it easy'. Damned good advice.

Pip Pip
B

Jan 22/76

Dear Aunt Lois

40,000 odd things to say. Difficult to know how or where to start but am going to attend to a few items for now.

Thank you -THANK YOU - for the book. In my humble opinion Joyce Barkhouse did a wonderful job - in conjunction with you. Been so wanting to write to both of you on that. Will do but goodness knows when. I read it twice - so have Keith & Sue - just got it back from them last night.

And now, today, your letter with many comments and questions. Ohhhh! dear girl, how I'd love to put m'big feet up and hold forth at thee! However - and in the interim - strange (?) or is it that on sorting through odds and ends the night before your letter arrived I came across the enclosed booklet and wondered who might benefit from ?? Got two of them when in London. You say Mary has back problems. Whether it will help or not feel I must send it along. While not, at the moment, being able to remember the full contents I do know that it represents a considerable amount of common sense - an attitude sadly lacking, particularly in respect to back problems, on the part of the 'medics'. Now please - I abhor interfering - that most certainly is not the intention - just fervently hope that, in some way, it may help her.

Along with that and while having far too much ado to even consider answering your letter am enclosing one written to Clare almost a year ago. It covers a few of your questions and comments and will partially convey that of long standing. There was no reply nor has it been mentioned in conversation. Quite expected that. There is no way that one may dare to have a different viewpoint - to disagree or try to convey another aspect - obvious or not - or to indulge in that which conflicts with what some are so sure they 'know' Period. While poor old Clare does try she is still one of them. Lois used to be but she has changed considerably in the last few years. I knew it was an almost wasted effort but also, in a way, that it would eventually help her and in consideration of the 'parakeet' indoctrination by her mother (as Barney said?) and in deference to her attempted sincerity decided to do what I did. It was not passed on or mentioned to Lois. Standard proceedure. Ah Weel! - 'twill all come out in the wash.

As usual - too darned brief - must keep trying to attend to more of the correspondence involved in the passing of an old friend whose affairs I have been looking after and to those in England who are having a very difficult time. So it goes -- sometimes wonder ---. Please return letter to Clare. No hurry at all.

Pip Pip

Lib Bill

RR1 Abbotsford
Feb 21/74

A Wonderful Girl;

And that means just prezactly what it says. How come or for why I'm embarking on this epistle at this time is highly debatable. Its 2.30 P M. My No 1 man had a call from his wife at noon to the effect that the water main had become debusted and the basement was flooded -- so he's away to attend to that. Other two lads are busy painting, sawing etc -- I should be having conniptions or whatever but instead am starting out on this endeavor. Doggonedest situation -- matter of fact its unbelievable. No use trying to figure why -- must be meant to be. But I'm not so darn sure about that either. Dad Gum it - the sun is shining (should be out thinning radishes so they don't marry up with the carrots) recently succeeded in decapitating left forefinger so it objects to typing. No 2 finger is willing but not as cooperative so, all in all, this just doesn't make sense. Maybe its not supposed to. Hmmm. That could be the key point. On account of I can't remember what I was going to say in the first place. Which is not at all unusual but then - Hells Bells - why should one have to bear up under such problems??? Perhaps by using a time honored and most satisfactory Scotty expression? Anyhoo:--

'Twas delightful to chat with you again -- to see the sparkle in your eyes -- to sense the roguish spirit behind it all -- to hear that you're keeping a good eye, albeit via No Trump, on certain vivacious characters like Anne, Mary and Ruth while keeping an admonishing finger available for another character in Almonte (that's away out in unorganized territory isn't it?) who, hopefully, is not trying too hard to behave hisself. Must add to the spice of life to be able to have such scope in telling who is what and why at times --

Speaking of 'telling' reminds me of a most interesting interview a few weeks ago between Pat Burns and an ex priest who, while in Vietnam, opted out, turned in his robes, told the laddie in Rome to go fly a kite, or whatever one has to do in such circumstances. Appears that this chap had enough manhood left as to no longer be able to continue blessing bombing missions, absolving those involved, nor any other aspect of that most sordid of enterprises. One of the few with the intelligence to assess a situation and the guts to have no more of it. An intensely luci graphic account of his interpretation of mans inhumanity to man. His portrayal of compatriots, both proddy and mickey, while devastating, was couched more in sorrow than condemnation. Befitting, I submit, a man of stature. But when it came to the denunciation, from Uncle Sam on down, of those who contrived, aided, and abetted such an infamous objective he pulled no punches. Notvby indulging in emotional semantics but calmnl and forcibly delienating the interests and motivating factors of those who don't give a damn for anything but the Almighty Buck. His remarks concerning Nixons statement that America would only withdraw from Vietnar 'with honor' were such as to relegate that remark to its correct categor sickening. He was on a lecture tour in an attempt to enlighten as many of his fellow countrymen as possible with the double-dealing hyprocisy of their administration. Another voice in the wilderness perhaps but on of an increasing number who are becoming really concerned with the machinations of vested interests and the effect on humanity in general. More to him sez I. A day or so later so it is and in perusing the above remembered an aspect of the interview that was simply priceless. As you may know Patrick was an altar boy in days gone by in the fair city of Montreal no less and 'twas hoped by the family that, eventually, he would become Bishop Burns. By indulging in the wildest of fantasy can you imagine a " " taking orders from a Holy See -- or whatever??

B. Lee's letter 1/96
to R. C's & Pollard & Leighton

Speaking of 'telling' reminds me of a most interesting interview a few weeks ago between Pat Burns and an ex priest who, while in Vietnam, opted out, turned in his robes, told the laddie in Rome to go fly a kite or whatever one has to do in such circumstances. Appears that this chap had enough manhood left as to no longer be able to continue blessing bombing missions, absolving those involved, nor any other aspect of that most sordid of enterprises. One of the few with the intelligence to assess a situation and the guts to have no more of it. An intensely lucid graphic account of his interpretation of mans inhumanity to man. His portrayal of compatriots, both prodd and mokey, while devastating, was couched more in sorrow than condemnation. Befitting, I submit, a man of stature. But when it came to the denunciation, from Uncle Sam on down, of those who contrived, aided, and abetted such an infamous objective he pulled no punches. Notably indulging in emotional semantics but calmly and forcibly delineating the interests and motivating factors of those who don't give a damn for anything but the Almighty Buck. His remarks concerning Nixons statement that America would only withdraw from Vietnam 'with honor' were such as to relegate that remark to its correct category sickening. He was on a lecture tour in an attempt to enlighten as many of his fellow countrymen as possible with the double-dealing hypocrisy of their administration. Another voice in the wilderness perhaps but one of an increasing number who are becoming really concerned with the machinations of vested interests and the effect on humanity in general. More to him see I. A day or so later so it is and in perusing the above remembered an aspect of the interview that was simply priceless. As you may know Patrick was an altar boy in days gone by in the fair city of Montreal no less and 'twas hoped by the family that, eventually, he would become Bishop Burns. By indulging in the wildest of fantasy can you imagine a " " taking orders from a Holy See -- or whatever??

When Billy was a little boy I used to say to Queenie Ibbotson that I hoped to God something could be done to keep his mother and the church from making a monkey out of him. She prayed very hard for him as did Winnie, Gladys, Mrs Leech and others. It has been a long process. Many helped for we wanted something to prevent the stultifying effect of that influence. When he kicked over the traces and married they were so thrilled at the answer to their prayers in such a concrete way -- just as you have been and are at your successful contacts with me. It was not only thrills at seeing his evident progress but tremendous satisfaction at their own progress. It was proof to them that they had accomplished something. Remember Winnie saying "This just goes to show Ethel she's not the only one who knows how to pray. Our prayers get answered too." You must go visit Winnie, Alf and Gladys as soon as you can. Plan to have a real yak-yakking time. They are all very fond of you and now that there is no interference you will really enjoy yourself. I'll come along too if you let me.

By the time the other children came along I had given up trying to cope with the churchs' influence and Ethels fanaticism. It was like trying to put out a grass fire. You'd think it was all out and it would bust out somewhere else. I never gave up on Billy though -- I was determined she wasn't going to ruin them all. Thank God she didn't. It would have been far worse but for our efforts. I can see the pattern now and how we all form a part of the whole. Each individuals life on the earth plane is like a picture in a tapestry. Each figure is made up of the same threads in every other figure - only the color and pattern varies. Color means so much to you - you can get my depth of meaning.

So when David came along Ethel had him to herself, aided and abetted by the girls whom she had trained like parakeets, sheltered and protected by her own manufactured cage. Brush was only partly right --

hot house plants are at least allowed to express their own individuality. Parakeets do not. Their owner puts their words into their beaks by dint of determined and unrelenting effort. All you can do with David is to place him in the Pyramid in the Column of Fire. You're making good progress on that. Keep right at it. Your demonstrations are part of my education at this stage. Had I only known what you know I could have helped things more than I did and wouldn't have committed the errors. However, it was all part of the course. We select our own and study our lessons in our own way. One boy spends hours on his homework making it look like a work of art - getting credits for neatness as well as effort. Others slide through in the quickest possible time blaming the teacher for handing it out. It's all according to our understanding.

Tell Billy to radiate the White Light to David and to harbor no resentment whatsoever. The kid is just as confused as anybody can be and remain outside the booby hatch. All he observes and knows to be true is contrary to the churchs' teaching. What kind of a deal is that to hand anybody?. Truly the forces of Evil or Darkness or Negativeness are equal and opposite. The Chinese symbol of Yang and Yin is a perfect expression of it. If we were educated to recognize them and work with them in a constructive way Life would really be a thrilling experience. Keep beaming that light. I cannot explain the REAL situation so you would understand clearly at this time. It is enough to know that you have the Light.

About two weeks later

This is Fathers Day and I am giving aa much belated message through you to my son and grandson. You feel my regrets for not having the courage to do it before. We all have our weaknesses, our hurdles to cross. Our limitations are of our own making however. We cannot, in all fairness, blame any of them on anyone else but ourselves. Learn to think, to anal-

yze your own behavior. At night when you have gone to bed relive the days events - what you said and did - look at yourself from within yourself with a critical, analytical all-seeing eye. Do not condemn but analyze and strive to do better tomorrow. Little by little you will attain your ideal. You must have an ideal of course and as you grow your ideal will expand and become greater, higher, more perfect. YOU are the husbandman of your own soul. Let it not be confined in a haphazard, slapdash, jerry built hovel but a clean, beautiful, vigorous and perfect temple for the soul to expand and grow out from. Give yourself for the good things you do - the progress you make. Remember your physical self is the tiger you must tame within your own breast. Learn to recognize those animal characteristics when they are expressed and gently but firmly control them. I refer to hate, resentment, teasing, aggravation of others to get even, selfishness etc. Think loving, happy, joyful thoughts. Never criticize or condemn others. You cannot see the true situation. Remember all men are brothers - no matter how you look at it it must be so - it cannot be otherwise. In the Fathers house are many mansions but it is still the Fathers house and we are all his children. Learn to LOVE on the very highest level of your being. Learn to practice kindliness, tolerance, generosity, sympathy, truthfulness, harmony, peace and goodwill towards others. You will then be truly LOVING your neighbor as yourself. It is the THOUGHT of these things that is important to you and to the world.

That was on a Wednesday. Thursday P M I had the truck loaded and planned to leave for Salmon Arm and the 'lake' Friday morning. Phone call -- Barney says not to leave before 4 P M Saturday. Details to follow. ?????????????????? Did not leave as intended but sure as blazes was wondering??????????????. Friday. One of Dave's pilots was killed at Kelowna. Details:--

Tell Billy to practice love and positive thinking as he has never done before. Put all the Carlins, Dave and Mom in White Light before you leave - keep them there - and do nothing whatever to agitate or annoy. Put on a real demonstration of deep and devoted love but stick to your principles. Do not for one minute let them feel or imagine that you have any resentment toward any of them. Forgive them all for their ignorance and foolishness. They are victims of their own stupidity and have a certain and sure karma to work out as a result of it. Dave feels a certain responsibility for this and needs all the Light you can give him but anything you would say at this time would mean nothing. He has ears only for the priest and Mom. Now you know why I wanted you to wait about going up there. Even a little time will reduce the hight tension wou would walk in to. So you see you must use that Light constantly - it is your one protection and greatest 'weapon'. Thank God, My Boy, that at least you know how to use it even if your understanding of its Reality is still limited. You are doing a greater service than you can possibly know by using it. Do so whenever possible.

Dec 9/75

A Sweet Girl

Further to a long overdue talk with you felt just had to try and, somehow, make amends for not contacting you for so long. Whether this can be completed before Xmas I just do not know - there is a graet deal that, otherwise, has to be attended to particularly in view of the aftermath of the recent mail strike. Would prefer to not indulge in the whys and wherefores -----. Have just retyped that which I told you had received from Barney after he had passed on. That is enclosed. There is a great depth of meaning that could, and very likely should, be attended to. Cannot now but, albeit very briefly, attend to other than a very few aspects. Some of this was oral - but-for the record - Queenie Ibbotson was an old timer at Salmon Arm - friend and neighbor of many years. Winnie & Gladys - mothers sisters. Mrs Leech - you will remember her - she & Barney went together for awhile in Montreal - mother of Geoffrey Leech in Ottawa. Another old time friend and neighbor. All have passed on but have confirmed most of this with all except her. 'Brush'. Another neighbor for a few years. He and Barney had some grand old sessions swapping jokes and otherwise telling each other where they could go - and why --- He sure had the situation re mother and the 2 girls figured out--- 'Pyramid in the Column of Fire' -- 'White Light' - essentially the same thing - long, long story - volumess are involved - for the purpose of the moment - it enables one who has some knowledge and understanding of the principles involved to at least try and help those and what in need. You envisage - imagine - think of the most beautiful white light youmcan - sunshine on fresh snow - sunlight dancing through a lovely white lace curtain - the incandescent reflections of sunlight playfully and so joyously darting from one dewdrop to another - on the petals of a violet?? - or whatever. Anyway - the purest, most vibrant, scintillating, white light you can dream up. 'Think' - 'Envisage' - people or objects being enshrouded in that light - either in a sphere or at the base of an inverted pyramid shaped form of that light or - as Barney mentioned - Column of Fire. No stipulations whatsoever. Just put them or it there. While almost impossible to prove or document have seen some rather remarkable things happen ------ And - if not - so what? What harm can possibly accrue from giving yourself in such a manner??. It is a part of - an extension of - a form of universal force - cosmic energy - 'God' - that utilized as the 'laying on of hands' as so ably demonstrated by Jesus, Buddha and others. A part of that which you mentioned concerning your meeting a 'faith healer' when visiting Alice. A term which, in a way is appropriate, but, I submit, is much more accurate as 'Spiritual Healing'. That that can, has, and does work is irrefutable regardless of color, race, or creed.. It is, after all, a natural phenomena and, as such, can only be a part of that which was 'created?'. It used to be a measure of common and accepted use for the benefit of all - until the Council of Nicea - 325 A D - when those jokers who subsequently started the Vatican - et al - whomped up the idea of heaven, hell, plus the in-a-between joint - and proceeded to destroy all that pertaining otherwise (the destruction of the Library of Alexandria??) for one and generally contrived to suppress anything other than that which they decided to promulgate. Anyone who would not go along - well - is there a more infamous example of mans' inhumanity to man than the 300 years of the Inquisition????. Much involved since - the Reformation - etc etc etc. Getting carried away to an extent

but still so awfully, awfully, brief. Gradually, so gradually, as in the days of the Dark Ages but now so much more enhanced via the communications of modern technology people are becoming more and more aware of what is - of what is not - that much of that purported to be just 'aint so' - that one can take just so much 'guff' and then - that is it. That it is no longer necessary (?) to abide by the dictums of priest, doctor, or lawyer - that it is long past time that one stood on ones own hind two feet and tried, impartially and analytically to determine what in blazes life is all about. You mentioned often thinking of good old Uncle Bill, Barney, Con and so on. They, as you or anyone else can determine, are just in another - for want of a better word - 'dimension' - have completed their stay and have departed from the earth 'plane' - are a part of 'immortality' - as we all are.

This is very difficult due to not only frequent interruptions but the necessity of trying to condense all that could so easily be said into just a few comments. Get one or two of those down and then have to recap and try to decide what comes next as wellmas the desirability of some sequence. 'Faith' or 'Spiritual Healing'. One of if not the best centres of that is the British Spiritualistic Society in London. Well know some of the good people there - 4 or 5 are usually in Vancouver once a year - made a point of dropping in when in London last February. Have corresponded with one for years - Coral Polge - a lovely and truly gracious and gifted lady. A physicic ~~artist~~ artist. Had a rather wonderful letter from her just yesterday. She will have, by now, once again packed the Albert Hall in London with another of her demonstrations - which one has to see and partake of before there is any possibility of believing. Again - a long, long story ---. Getting carried away - but it is all so much a part and very, very relevant to what I have called 'Barneys' message'. There was more of that - right on as this was - one has no alternative than to realize and accept the overall authenticity. You will have many thoughts on reading it - and this - I so wish I could remember or undersatnd why you were not told before - I know I certainly intended to. I'm sorry and apologise for being so remiss. However - here be some of it. Only a few know of. David knows. The girls do not. Was going to tell them this year but we never seemed to be able to get together. Will try again next time up. Lois, I know, can now accept Clare - I'm still not so sure. They, like most, have had to change their minds on a lot of things so - well - we'll see. You well know what I am alluding to -----. Ohhhhhh!!!!! How I'd love to talk with you of all this! This is just too, too, brief and so inadequate. But must, perforce, send at least this much (after several days of not knowing for sure whether one is hither or yon). 'Membered summat though (maybe should mark that down??) Started a letter to you many moons ago - at moment acn find only one original and one copy - enclosing both - just to show that, despite horrendous and otherwise unforgiveable behavior, do often think of a girl who is just so doggone sweet. That she happens to be the sister of my father - well - that really makes her 'TOPS'.

Bless you dear girl - and - again - as Barney used to say

Pip Pip

'Lil Bill

Awful typing - please forgive?

but still so awfully, awfully, brief. Gradually, so gradually, as in the days of the Dark Ages but now so much more enhanced via the communications of modern technology people are becoming more and more aware of what is - of what is not - that much of that purported to be just 'aint so' - that one can take just so much 'guff' and then - that is it. That it is no longer necessary (?) to abide by the dictums of priest, doctor, or lawyer - that it is long past time that one stood on one's own hind two feet and tried, impartially and analytically to determine what in blazes life is all about. You mentioned often thinking of good old Uncle Bill, Barney, Con and so on. They, as you or anyone else can determine, are just in another - for want of a better word - 'dimension' - have completed their stay and have departed from the earth 'plane' - are a part of 'immortality' - as we all are. This is very difficult due to not only frequent interruptions but the necessity of trying to condense all that could so easily be said into just a few comments. Get one or two of those down and then have to recap and try to decide what comes next as wellmas the desirability of some sequence. 'Faith' or 'Spiritual Healing'. One of if not the best centres of that is the British Spiritualistic Society in London. Well know some of the good people there - 4 or 5 are usually in Vancouver once a year - made a point of dropping in when in London last February. Have corresponded with one for years - Coral Polge - a lovely and truly gracious and gifted lady. A physicle artist. Had a rather wonderful letter from her just yesterday. She will have, by now, once again packed the Albert Hall in London with another of her demonstrations - which one has to see and partake of before there is any possibility of believing. Again - a long, long story ---. Getting carried away - but it is all so much a part and very, very relevant to what I have called 'Barney's message'. There was more of that - right on as this was - one has no alternative than to realize and accept the overall authenticity. You will have many thoughts on reading it - and this - I so wish I could remember or understand why you were not told before - I know I certainly intended to. I'm sorry and apologize for being so remiss. However - here be some of it. Only a few know of. David knows. The girls do not. Was going to tell them this year but we never seemed to be able to get together. Will try again next time up. Lois, I know, can now accept Clare - I'm still not so sure. They, like most, have had to change their minds on a lot of things so - well - we'll see. You well know what I am alluding to -----. Ohhhhhh!!!!! How I'd love to talk with you of all this! This is just too, too, brief and so inadequate. But must, perforce, send at least this much (after several days of not knowing for sure whether one is hither or yon). 'Membered summat though (maybe should mark that down?) started a letter to you many moons ago - at moment can find only one original and one copy - enclosing both - just to show that, despite horrendous and otherwise unforgivesable behavior, do often think of a girl who is just as doggone sweet. That she happens to be the sister of my father - well - that really makes her 'TOPS'.

Bless you dear girl - and - again - as Barney used to say

Pip Pip

'Uncle Bill

B. Lee Harrington's letter - re "R.C's & White Dove"

Feb 21/76

A Sweet Girl

Must attempt to at least start a reply to more of your letter. As before will quote a portion:- 'Your father had no love for priests or the R C church any more than you have and it was a bitter pill for him to have to live with his wife's fanataticism. I was always afraid that he had become an R C till you told me that he never had. However no matter how much we dissapprove of the Romish church, we must remember that among the priesthood there have many good and saintly men and our Father in Heaven would not approve of our holding a grudge against them. Do you think that David is a steadfast R C or do you think that he has some leanings towards Protest anism?' You are so right. There were many, many, things I used to wonder about in my formative years but could not get that which, to me, was a satisfactory answer. That fanatacism was, indeed, a completely overruling and demanding taskmaster. There could be no deviation whatever. One either accepted, believed, 'knew', or one had 'lost the faith'. I was a sadly mixed up boy and it took years before I recognized, to an extent, that which had caused the greatest inner turmoil. Namely, the 'whipped dog look' in Barneys eyes. Don't remember when I first noticed that but I do so recollect the impact and the torment resulting from. I used to watch for that -- and self inflict further torment -- Ohhhh! I could relate - and relate! I did develop a 'grudge' - I did become unduly critical - I did conclude that the greatest evil on earth was that damned church - etc etc & etc. Did I say 'sadl y mixed up'? And then some! However and gradually a few things got straightened around. With greater knowledge and understanding and the decision that I relly did not have to abide by the dictates and dictums of anyone or anything

I started to become the unorthodox and, quite likely, ornery character I be. Had to realize that mother had been and was doing, to the best of her knowledge and ability, her best and that - well - who could ask for more?? And that Barney had and was portraying (Oh!! how I mean this!) the stature of really, truly, and absolutely a 'gentleman.' Not, though, until after he had passed on, did I fully appreciate that. Not to say it was all that bad - it wasn't - there were good times - there was enjoyment - there was mutual well being - but in the background -- nuff sed. In retrospect - one comment of Barneys:- 'Weare all a part of the whole - we each select our own course ----------' really registered. So much, so much more could be said -- . Now - again - you are quite right in that there were and are many good and saintly men in the priesthood. Absolutely. But - and again - to quote Barney - 'It is all according to our understanding.' I was an acolyte for quite a few years - I knew and recognized some priests of that calibre - I also got to know some who were thorough scoundrels. I have been involved with ministers who fit both categories. Give and take. Where does one draw the line??
In that context am going to digress for a moment as think it applicable. Have operated (?) my own business since 1952. Have determined, the hard way, that a 'credit rating' is by no means the only criterion. While it is relevant I have and do, when it comes to a new account, question the religious affiliation of the party or parties concerned. Has resulted in some raised eyebrows. But - have been 'taken' too many times. If the answer is thus and so, religious wise, then - 'I'm sorry - may I suggest you get your requirements elewhere or pay cash.'. I am by no means the only one who has had to adopt that attitude and measure. Cannot help but feel and think it should not be - but - once bitten twice shy. It by no means always applies but - one has to face up to reality at times even though being quite distasteful. That rings a bell. You will remember

far better than I of the occasional remark and comment which I thought, at times, almost comprised a plaintive note in the letters of George Dawson to his sister. Nothing extraordinary - certainly no denunciation - just, I thought, a quite natural reaction of a keen mind to a totally different environment. Some things he found to be not as purported - and had to realize and recognize that. Just that, on reading, and now in relation to all this, I so felt for and appreciated that which he found himself faced with. Strange as it may seem that aspect was noted by some surveyors - we have had some great old discussions ----- . I know four ex priests. Have, over a goodly number of years, indulged in some rare old chin wags with them, individually. The whole gamut - serious - silly - humerous - tragic ------. What IS the answer?????? We are told there is only one. But - in light of further knowledge and attempted understanding - Oh! What is that song of which a line is - 'It aint necessarily so???'

Dave is most certainly not a steadfast R C. He had a much rougher time than I did in that his indoctrination was more thorough and was enhanced by his acceptance of such. There came a time when he was faced with a situation wherein and answer or solution to was not forthcoming from or through that which he had believed was the be all and end all. He tried - give him credit - he did his damndest to try and reconcile that which <u>was</u> - with that which was purported to be. Nox use. He came very close to 'being put in his box.' I waited for 23 years for something like that to happen. A long story - which - really - if it does - should unfold from him. He, to the best of my knowledge, does not lean towards Protestanism but is wondering - searching - probing - for what is? - what isn't? There is so much - so much -- . Remember what Barney said and suggested of him??? Have an urge to digress again (How is theee ever to put up with I ????) Being in lieu of some expressions have been using which so apply to an episode last June

in which I undertook to carry out the wishes of the old friend of 40 odd years in the format of that which, perhaps, could be called a 'memorial service' but was, in so far as those concerned, a 'farewell'. A long story in itself. The proceedings were taped and pictures taken. Have sent several of each to those who were unable to attend. Have only the originals left but would send along if you think you would like to hear possibly the most unusual 'farewell' you ever have and that which, to a great extent, fits in with what we have been talking of. Wait a minute. There would have to be 2 tapes. One as a prelude to and explanation of. No problem -, have made several of them for those in England and elsewhere. However - if you would like will do - but won't promise when. Now - apart from bouncing around most unpredictably - vere vas I ??????? Other than to have, in a way, attempted to answer another portion of your letter in a most brief and woefully inadequate manner, I must cease and desist and try to finalize four others that have been and are in the process of ----------. With, again ------ another phone call --- another day --- think was going to say 'my apologies' 'Cease and desist?' Not quite yet as feel must relate this. Last night a wedding - Anglican - one of the boys in shop - took pictures as have on many such occasions. Good time. At reception wound up sitting next to minister. Soon realized that here was a chance to query that which had bugged me for years. He asked what I thought of the young couple. Told him in complimentary terms. Then - what did you think of the service? Will try and relate verbatim.

'Very nice except for some rather grim aspects.'

'Oh? what do you mean 'grim'?

'Why should anyone but, specifically, this young couple tonight be in the 'fear' of God or anything else?'

'Well -- I don't quite understand that.'

'Did you not say sir, in part, that this man and woman are hereby united

in the holy bonds of matrimony in the 'fear' of God?'

'Yes, certainly.'

'The question still stands - why should they 'fear'?

'Well -- long pause -- it - it is according to scripture.'

'I'm sorry sir, I've heard that before and, to me, it is not an answer at all. Are you not aware of the implications of 'fear'?

'Well - ah - hmm - xxx are you not being rather difficult?'

'Difficult??? I had not thought of it in that way but if trying to get an answer is being difficult then may I assure you that I can get much more so with anyone who implies, infers, or otherwise contrives to place anyone in 'fear'

'Hmmm -- I'd rather not answer that.'

'Fair enough. Your prerogative. May I mention another aspect?'

'Certainly.'

'Did you not say, in so many words, that it was to be hoped and desirable that this couple had children?'

'Why yes, of course.'

'Then sir, may I ask just what the hell business is it of yours or anyone elses whether they decide to have children or not?'

'They are supposed to --- '

'Who says so?'

He was obviously becoming uncomfortable so I said 'Look, fellow, you are the first one I've had the opportunity of trying to pin down on these matters. Your job is one that I most certainly do not envy and I fully ascribe to the many good things you are so often called on to perform. You have, in many ways, and I'd like to think to the best of your ability, given this young couple some sage and sound advice. I could enlarge on and further question some of that but, as of tonight, I do strenuously object to the matters so briefly discussed.' He put his

hand onnmy arm and said 'Mr H. you have put your finger on that which I have often thought of - but - you do - I hope you do consider that I am in a rather difficult position?'

'I do. Absolutely. And, as I said, I do not envy you at all and I'll give you full credit for the good things you do.'

'Ah Mr H. you are an unusual and, may I add, a rather forthright man. Could we, at some time convenient to both of us, delve further into that which I feel would be of mutual benefit?'

'Your darned right. I like the way you put that. I'm warning you though, that I am not one to waste time in scriptural semantics.'

'Igathered that Mr H. I also like the way you put things. May I call you

'Please do.'

It was left at that - only a few moments of - in retrospect - of saying that which could and perhaps should have been stated differently - and so on - does it not always seem so? However, am sure looking forward to a real chin wag with him. And so it goes. Not that I think you should but, if you had to, how would thee ever forgive I????

No doubt I is a naughty boy but then, surely now, you never thought I was anything that could conceivably be construed as 'good'??

'Lil Bill

Jan 29/76

Dear Annt Lois

Been driving hither & yon & thereabouts today delivering this & that & whatever else - while thinking of many things and not resolving any. One, though, that kept recurring and feel must be attended to even though it will mean using a 'lil bit, more or less, of midnight oil. Namely, a query in your letter - Quote - 'I am interested in this wonderful clear & bright light that you speak of or a pillar of light that you say Barney called it. Is this just a Cosmic Ray or the Holy Spirit? Is it what Spirit Healers use to cure peoples ills - or is it some invisible power that when people are subjected to it that it helps them to see the error of their ways and will get them back on the straight and narrow road? How do you get the feel of this light and can anyone use it? Was it Barney that in some way told you about it?' 'Tis now Feb 3. If could only relate all that have been thinking of it would be so simple - but perhaps too easy. So must try and convey soem aspects of that which involves volumes. The 'Light' is a quite natural phenomena. It has been since the beginning of time whenever that was. It is a form and manifestation of magnetic, cosmic, universal, or whatever term may apply to that which has been and is available to those not only of this relatively insignificant planet but universally. (Oh Lordy! that, in itself, as you can well imagine involves pages - and then some) It is a prt of all living and so called inaminate matter. Has it not only recently been 'discovered' that even plants respond to music and the loving words and attitude of those attending them? It is related to the 'Kundalini Fire' of eastern philosophy and teachings - Yoga etc - wherein the light is taken in via the 'soft spot' in the cranium (a la Baby)

transmitted down to the base of the spine and reproductive organs and then reversed to the head as a benefit to that individual or 'sent' out or emanated , via that soft spot or from the area of the pitutiary gland between and above the eyes, (the Third Eye - of - and still to a great extent - Mythology?) to whoever or whatever may, at the time, be of interest or concern by way of benefit. Is a form of that so ably and effectively ~~demonstrated~~ demonstrated by Jesus in 'The laying on of hands'. Remember too -- 'As I do so can ye also and more'. That that has and is being done is irrefutable. Clinically documented and by other means. I, personally, have witnessed and been a party to on several occasions. Nothing mysterious - no 'miracles' - just a utilization of that universally available But that which was intentionally and deliberately suppressed by the oligarchy of that time when so called Christianity was propounded. If Jesus was around today he would, as he was, again, in some way, be shut up or eliminated by an extension of that same oligarchy. He would be classed as a radical, a Commie, or whatever else deemed applicable as a threat to the domination of those who profit by keeping you & I under their respective thumbs. I'm digressing. The light is a part of and could be further included in, depending on source, prana: mana; chi; odic force; orgone tumo; animal magnetism. Recently Russians have called it Bio-Plasma Some call it Bio-Cosmic or etheric energy. 'Tensor Fields' is another very recent attempt applicable to acupuncture and the system of body energy fields. (Ohhh! how I'd love to hold forth on that!!!) Few years ago the Russians, using a variation of Kirlean photography, succeeded in photographing the departure of the energy field, spirit, soul, or whatever from the body after so called death. No problem - has long been known in the occult - but just try and dare mention that to any ecclasiasactic ------. (Hmmm-can't spell) All of the same - tied in with clairvoyance, physcometry, astral projection, telepathy, levitation, the aura of you & I & everyone else

(as portrayed and thoroughly fouled up by the biblical 'halo') On & on & on & on - and - in no way meant to be derogratory ------- .
Whether it could be alluded to as the 'Holy Spirit' I don't know. Somehow that term tickles my funny bone - I know it should not ~~inlieu~~ in lieu of being construed as being critical - which it is not. Would so like to indulge in pages there while being 'humerously-serious' - vice-versa - - SCHTOPS . The light can be used by anyone but with these prequisites at least some knowledge of the whys and wherefores; the method and application; that any attempt to use other than for benefit is negated and will backfire: (As ye sow so shall ye reap): that monetary gain from such must be excluded or, again, the effect is negated: (enter the charlatans - and - is why the money lenders were chased from the temple???) It is a form a part of that used by, as of now, generally speaking, those known as Spiritual Healers. There are - Ohh! Gracious girl - there are variations. It does help those to see the error of their ways and getv back on the straight and narrow road. But -- who is to say just what that comprises? The R C 's maintain that unless you do it their way you've had it Buster. Period. Others say 'Oh no, thats not it - do it my or our way and you really will be 'saved'. Ad infinitum and - yes - I've got to say it - ad nauseum. That is not meant to be critical - no way - we are all in varying stages of development - who is to say what is or what isn't? (judge that ye be not judged??) But it does mean that which, to a great extent IS. I'm going to digress agin due to a most vivid memory related to all this. Another aspect of the 'light' is color therapy. Remember Barney saying 'Color means so much to you - you will get my depth of meaning?) Have to try and briefly condense. Purple is a healing color - from of lovely soft mauve to a deep, vibrant, scintallating, alive purple. Blue is a spiritual color which, again, covers the spectrum from light to deep. Incidentally -- Ohh! how does one 'condense'? It has been said that if the real

portrayal of color was to be appreciated and used it would be represented by a scale 42' long - of which we, as mortals on this planet, are only aware of 2". Back to purple. When Barney was in hospital at Victoria we (Ruth & I plus a number of others) 'sent' him that (by visualing, thinking, seeing him in purple). At one point Clare phoned - ' Barney says the bushes on the lawn are purple - why is his pillow purple?- and so on. No use even trying to explain ---. Day or so later I was over there - could not tell the why of purple - he was under sedation. But hew was not so doped as to grab my hand and say 'Billy, for God sakes, can't you get me out of this snake pit?' I'll tell you, my dear, that was the roughest few minutes, hours, days, that I have ever experienced Had to realize that Clare and mother were doing their best - that the medical attention was all that could be expected but - again I'll tell you - no one will know how close I came to blowing the whole administration of St Josephs Hospital, Clare & mother, and the church in general into the damndest assortment of smithereens imaginable. However, and before I get carried away, that was, at least in my view, ver concrete verification of, shall we say the 'transmission of light' of whatever form. There have been many others. Now - where from here??? Barney did not tell me of. I do not know but I doubt if he did know of while here on his particular phase of 'life'. Certainly it was never mentioned. But he did refer to it in his next phase, dimension, or whatever as you have noted. It all fit in as to leave no doubt as to the authenticity. There was more. A truly, in my humble (Ihope) opinion, wonderful and enlightening experience It most certainly resulted in a considerable reorganization of my thoughts and outlook. As to use of the light. Some quotes which are applicable but which escape me for the moment - 'It is the <u>thought</u> of these things that -----?' Was it Thoreau, Emerson, Veblen, Edison, Twain, or? (Incidentally all those gentlemen were well aware of that being so briefly touched on)

Shakespeare - 'There are more things in heaven and earth ------?' Also - 'What fools we mortals be'. Both, within the context of the overall - dead on. However. Basically it is quite simple (but it must be realize d that anything that is simple, effective, and, worst of all, dirt cheap, is verboten). Come on, boy, come on, do try and get straightened around here ----. One 'thinks' - 'visualizes' - someone or something as being enshrouded in a sphere of light or at the base of a column of same as briefly mentioned before. No specifics until with much greater knowledge and understanding. Just put them or it there. Relax - visualize that wonderful universal light flowing or beaming through that soft spot in your head - take it down to your heart - from there 'send' it back out to whoever you are thinking of or concerned with. With the sole intent of love, well being, beauty, forgiveness -- anything that - from your heart - represents 'good'. Or - just put in light - and forget about it. In another way as Barney said - 'So you see you must use that light constantly - it is your one protection and greatest weapon ------ . * You are doing a greater service than youu can possibly know even though your understanding of its Reality is still limited ---- or words to that effect. Getting off the track again (as if I ever could stay on!!!) 'In another way'. Enshroud <u>yourself</u> in that light either - Oh - will just tell you what I have done and do. When going up to the lake (Salmon Arm) or wherever for that matter I take a few moments and circle myself and truck in a sphere - envisage same at destination. Meaningless -- phantasy??? Without many, many, pages I think not. The same could and does apply to one who indulges in a prayer. Regardless of the effectiveness or otherwise of either I have had to and do wonder why the western world, comprising about 1/3 of the population of this ruddy planet, does 'God' have to be the criterion. Surely allowances have to be made - look - long before a God was known or even thought of civilizations existed who knew of and used the 'light'. After all 2000 years is less than an eye blink in time

even as we think we understand it. How about considering that the Great Pyramid was built close to 45,600 years ago of material quarried from 600 to 2000 miles away in central Africa - of some portions weighing 1200 tons fitted with an exactitude defying engineering knowledge and expertise of today -- of recently uncovered structures exceeding that of Egypt in Latin America -- of the Sermon on the Mount being 'discovered' on tablets dated as with carbon and other technology, as about 12,000 B C? Refernces:- National Geographic Society and the Smithsonian ~~Society~~ Institution. How about - no - I could go on and on. This will, albeit far, far, too briefly, have to suffice, in part, as an answer to your letter. It will, as in the last letter and enclosure, give you many thoughts. Some of which may be disturbing. Please, please, dear girl, may I assure you that, if so, the intent was and is most certainly not such. Some of that said may and probably was repititive - am not going to take time to review. With my limited time and frequent interruptions I find it impossible to convey that thought of or felt. Quite likely I should know and do better. But I don't. (Later -- Forgetful Dept. -- In utilizing that so briefly mentioned it is necessary that the hands and feet do not touch nor can the legs be crossed. We are concerned with a flow of energy - our left side is negative - our right positive - we are - from the individual cell to an entity - a universe in itself. Without that electro-magnetic or whatever component we are just so much flesh and bones. The finger tips comprise a greater number of nerve endings than any other part of body. ((Laying on of hands)). If that energy flow is restricted or, in simple terms, short circuited by contact then, to a great extent the desired effect is nullified - positive - negative - north pole - south pole - the Yang & Yin as Barney mentioned. Simple - basic - if only we could realize and understand) Vere vas I???? I do find it delightful to be able to relate, albeit in a most horrific manner, to one who is curious and who has an ample store of common sense to draw on

who can withhold judgement and will not arbitrarily dismiss another view as has, on several occasions, been indulged in by Clare as 'Oh well, thats nonsense'. I used to get all steamed up re such but have come to realize that it is just not worth it and, too, that I should not. Those who have installed the 'blinders' are only the result, in part, of that which Barney so aptly termed 'the stultifying effect' ----------. I most certainly do not know it all - neither do you - who does??? But must we not endeavor to strive towards the achievement of the betterment of ourselves and that of mankind? You have written a book and are, therefore, much more aware than I of the difficulty and detail involved in trying to decide what is and what is not to be. I must ask you to bear with me in allowing for the limitations of both time and the inability to express. You can well appreciate that there is far, far, more between the lines than on. Sometime, within the thereabouts of much ado, will get around to answering the rest of your letter. In interim all acn say is 'Thank You' and - would there be more girls as sweet as you.

'Lil Bill

Ellen B. Lee
Very good letter — helpful & the "whole" Dear Bill
Jan 29/76

Letters to
his
Aunt Doris
Winslow Sprague
from
B. Lee Harrington
also known as
Billy, Barney
or Bernard.
Son of Bernard who lived in R.C.

Essays by

William Seymour Harrington

brother of Lois

1932

Creation.

.....

Countless ages ago,There was nothing in the form of matter,as we are now used to,as it is today.There was no sun or earth,nor moon,nor grass nor trees,but simply darkness or nothing, and the earth was void,and without form and darkness prevailed.

There was a great Divine sprit,called''GOD'',which always existed,and will always exist,.

The Heavens(the sky)was a mass of gas,and by energy setting up, conbusted,and turned into a flaming mass,and burned across the skies,for millions of years,and the more it burnt,the less its volume became,until a clear penetrating light shone forth,and cast its reflection through the skies,and for the first time shadows fell.

And God called this burning mass light.God said''Let there be light,and there was light,and God called the light''day'' and the darkness night.(Genesis.1.3.4.5.)

During this time,other masses,both large and small were thrown off the bigger burning mass,due no doubt to internal explosions,one of which formed our'Earth',and were spherical in shape,being formed as such by their spinning motion through space.

Our 'Earth',at this time was covered with water,condensity the cause,

Gradually,due to the shrinkage,of the earth's crust,and earthquakes,dry land was forced upwards,,and the water decended.The dry land was called earth,and the water seas.(Genesis.1.9.10)

Then again ,due to the heat of the burning mass,evaporation lapped up the water from the earth,and formed clouds of fog,or steam,and the seas became smaller,and this mist became known as clouds.(heavens). (Genesis.1.8)God called this Heaven.)

Following along,the embro of plant life,was begun,and the first seeds and plants were made,and green grass and fruit trees,grew with great vigor,(as the earth was much warmer than now)upon virgin soil.

(Genesis.1.11.12.)And God said''Let the earth bring forth grass,etc, ''Whose seed is initself''.

The next period,We find,the stars',the planets' and the moon, came into existance,no doubt due to similar process,described by the creation of the earth.

The stars',too once formed a part of this larger mass.and were kept spinning around in space,at equal distances,by the ratio of their volumes,being attracted to one another,also kept apart,and continual moving,by their pull,by the largest mass.(the sun).Many of the stars, whose light we see today,have burnt themselves out,and are dead,like the moon,whose light is a reflection from the Sun's rays,and some of the star's too.Some of the Stars',whose fire was extinguised ages ago,still seem bright ,but is only the last glow of light,that has not reached its end to us,as yet. The moon and the stars were the lights for the night,and were for signs,to mark the seasons'days and years,(Genesis.1.14,15.)

Therefore the two great lights were made,the sun (the former burning mass,and for the first time is called the sun)to rule the day,and and the moon for the night,and the lesser lights,the stars',also for the night.(Genesis.16 verse.17.Chap)

With the Heavens' completed,and grass and vegetation growing,the time came for the sea,to bring forth life,in th form of great fishes,(no doubt,all manner of sea-weeds,and other forms of sea grasses and weeds,began their existance,the same time as the grass,but there is no record of it.Some may say,how do we know there was any?To this I say,How did shrimps live,and smaller species of fish too,many now extinct,if the essential food had not been provided for?)

such as all manner of fish,as herring,etc and great mammals,like the whales,also amfibious animals,huge glyptdons,etc.also sea and land birds' were created,such as sea-gulls,ravens etc,.

therefore,concluding,we find both fish and whales and other mammels and

all kinds of birds,both land and sea species,,were to propgate and fill the earth.(Genesis.1.20.22.)

Then land animals appeared,as elephants,mastodens,etc.and mans domesticated animals, as horses,dogs and cows,as we know them today. (Genesis.1.24.25.)

Thus we see to date,,according to their classifications,and in order of their appearence,in the various stages of the world,as it was created,the following results have been obtained:-

1st.period.(a)beginning of light,later devoloping into the sun(b)light was calleddaxxxx (c)darkness was called night.

2nd.day.(a)the evaporating of the seas that formed the clouds.(b)the appearence of dry land.(on the earth)(c)the birth of heaven or space. (d)dry land called earth.(e)waters on earth called seas.

4 and5th days.(a)grass,herbs and trees appeared.(b)stars and planets made.and the moon.(c)the completion of the sun.begun in first period. (d)creation of great fishes(e)of great whales.(f)fowls and birds of the air.(G)creation of land animals. (h)serpents and snakes.

Thus all the periods were ended before the appearence of man, and we can clearly see ,how everything was made for his benefit,and therefore,all was ready for him,at the end of the 5th.period.Early in the 6th.period,man was created,xxxxxxxxxx (gen.1.26.28). and was to have dominion over the fish and the whales,the birds of the air, and animals,and further more was to propgate his species.(Genesis.1.29.31.) Adam,after giving the names to the animals,could find no help-meet among the animals',so God caused a heavy sleep to fall upon him,and took one of his rib bones, and made he woman.(genesis.21.22)xxxx

From this brief sketch,We can clearly see,the order that things appeared,as directed by DIVINE THOUGHT,and had it not been fo this MASTER MIND,we today,would be at a great loss.FOOD for both sea and land animals was provided for in advance,and again everything that was needed for man,

was her first too.

It was like MOTHER planning out meals for a week in advance,keeping her larder full.

All NATURE,save man,obey the laws laid down for them,as they cant do otherwise,but man who has a consience,''a little lower than the angels,'' can do either right or wrong as he pleases.Man-kind was given a living soul,,''AS GOD BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE NREATH OF LIFE.

CAN ,We NOT LEARN A LOT FROM OLD MOTHER EARTH? AND USE HER AS OUR EXAMPLE The world was made in 7 periods giving man and beast, all that was required and GOD was pleased,and saw all was good.(gen.2.1.7)
No person can ever go far wrong in studing thelaws' of nature,as initiated by God,from the beginning,infact,the greatest people,''THAT walk & talk with GOD,are the ones who know and understand HIS LAWS' In reference to the UNIVERSE.

W.P.Harrington.Montreal.December,1932.

The Story of Garden of Eden.

.....

Possibly,the most famous garden of all time,is the garden of Eden,on account of its associations with the first man and woman,Adam and Eve.

The location of this magnificant garden was,near the Persian gulf,according to Bible accounts, and was made by God's command,for the home of the first man.

Our story begins,in the year,4004 B.C.Through this magnificent, garden,tropical in nature,oriental in style,and contained all manner of trees and supberb foliage,all kinds of animals and birds and beasts and snakesetc.and felt themselves secure within this domicile,as well a s very lucious fruits,tasty to the pallet.

This garden,was irregated with alarge river,running through it,and branched off into 4 heads(lakes or smaller rivers).The names of these rivers are(1)the river Pishon,going into the land of Havilah.(2) the riverGihon that goes to the land of Ethopia(the old name for the African countries,south of Egypt.)(3)the river Hiddkel,,that goes into Assyria, (the modern Armenia)an(4) The great river Eurphrates,(the largest river in S.W. Asia,beginning in the Armenian hills,and later joining th Tigris)

The name of the first river these branched off,is not given. The land of Havilah,was rich in mineral depoisits,including Gold and Onyx stones.

Into this garden,Adam and Eve came, to be forever happy,& were to be its caretakers,and were allowed full privilage,but were forbidden to eat,of the fruit,of the tree of knowledge,of good and evil,lest they should die.(gen.2.25)

up to now ,Adam and Eve were naked, and were not ashamed.

One day,the Devil called the serpent,said unto Eve''Hast thou not been forbidden,to eat of the fruit,of the tree of knowledge,of good and evil,(gen.3.1)And eve answered.We can eat of all the trees,in the garden,but the fruit of the tree of knowledge,which is in the midst

of the garden,we shall not eat,lest we die(gen.3 3)
Then the Devil answered,if thou eat the fruit of this tree thou shall, know good and evil,being as the gods, and ye shall not die.(gen.3.4.5)

Eve seeing the fruit was tasty,gave Adam to eat too,and they became wise,and saw they were naked.and made clothes for them-selves out of fig leaves.(gen.3.8-11)

The voice of the Lord,was heard,where art thou Adam,and replied,I am hiding,as I heard your voice.Who told thee that you were naked?and who told thee to eat of the forbidden fruit?(gen.3.8-11)

and Adam said,Eve gave me to eat.And the Lord said unto Eve, because thou has tempted thine husband,your sorrows shall increase,& your husband shall rule over thee.(gen.3.13-16).Unto Adam he said''because you have not obeyed me,you must work and till the ground,and in sorrow slave for a living.(gen.3.17-19)

Unto the Devil he said,thou are cursed above all animals etc.(gen.3.14-15)

So Adam and Eve were driven out of this garden,so no further temptation would come their way,while the tree of LIFE was guarded by an Angel.

This is the end of our little story.Man was put into a garden to be happy,and free,but due to sin,were driven out,and she was to be ruled by her Husband,and he was to earn their living by the sweat of his brow.EVER since those far off days,man has inherited the legacy of work,on account of Adamas sin,and has ruled his wife,and women have been assocci ated with sorrow.

I believe,however,in a few years time,with the kingdom of Heaven,well established on earth,mankind will drift back to the country again,as true living is only found there,free from cities,artifical life and troubles.Agriculture,is the main industry of every land,and strange,as it may seem,it is to be a recognized fact,as a part of the Div-

ine plan,for the establishment of God's kingdom on Earth.Let us all there fore pretend we are Adams' and Eves',that we in time,will all be back again,perhapps in a garden,perhaps on a farm,where we shall all be happy ,for ever and ever.

The story of Adam and Eve,and the garden of Eden,is no fairy tale,but the absolute truth.

W.S.Harrington.Dec.1932£

The present world crisis.Its meaning.

Today,mens' hearts are failing them,with a dark cloud of depression,lurking over every state,like unto an evil sprit,with long fingers.grasping joy,happiness and prosperity,by the throat.Cries of despair are heard on all sides.The poor are poorer,the rich are becoming distracted,by thei r financial failures;where-as unemployment,is gathering on its wings,the seeds of hatred and revolution,followed by Socialism,and even War.
World commerce is on the down-grade,armentments are increasing,while gov ernments are powerless,to assist their subjects,and all conferences,towards bettering the world,have been failures,(Save the Imperial Economic conference,in Ottawa,and the day called for their meeting,July,29th. is a prophetic date)and war-debt payments are an open issue,in the old world,where-as the new world(America)would go bankrupt without collecting of these debts,being a legacy,handed down to us fro The Great WAR.

Let us,therefore,consider the afore-mentioned facts,and the meaning attached to them,judged from Bibical prophecy,and History.

In the first place,one of the outstanding things to consider, is that man has put too much trust in man,and by so doing has dfifted aw ay from His God,and these calamaties are allowed,to come about,to punish mankind for his sin.

How much false-ness and untruthfullness,there is practised amongst the so-called Christian nations'and whole-sale robbery,'mongst politicans,from thetax-payers',and even our churches,have turned their Gospel preaching into a commercial bussiness,and have twisted the cross into the dollar sign.(Iam not speaking of individuals,rather of the mass as there are really some very good people, to be found,that live and walk in a Christians way.)

It is there-fore,God's intention,to prove to Mankind,His trust in man,is of no avail,what-so-ever,and these sorrowful calamaties are sent,to prove beyond all doubt,there is a greater power,the

maker of man,Creator of the Universe,the great Artist of Nature,& care-taker of those,who havepassed out of sight.

Every nation,that has forsaken their God,down through the course of History,has collapsed,when this state of affairs existed.

This present period,in this respect is far worse,than any of the proceeding ones,and God's punishment has decended upon all nations',none having escaped.Nations have risen to man-hood from youth,flourished for a time,then broke up,due to one reason,''Their neglect of God''.

People of today,argue,there has always been times of depression,and we did not hear so much about them,but never in the History of nations',ha such a great upheavel taken place,as today,but they hate to admit it.

Complete destruction,of the present era,is clearly foretold,and all man made systems must perish,and when it is accomplished that that the present, ~~that the present~~ days' of Tribulation are done,a new system,will arise under Christ's leader ship,and will settle all our troubles for us.

There is,one nation,and one alone,(called the elect,or the Saints)whose backbone is not to be broken entirely,''For the days' of tribulation,shall be shortened for the sake of the Elect''(This country has been identified as Great Britain & Her Empire)This nation,shall be used,as a neculas,(what remains of it)of the Jewish nation,and Has been indentified,with the Divine plan of the ages,in the formation of gods Kingdom on Earth.and unto this great nation,shall the gathering of all peoples be.

How much longer,shall this world,groan under this burden? & when will things pick up again?

The Bible gives us the key,in the ''signs of the Times',out lining certain events,proven by History.The foremost of these is the return of the Jews,to Palestine,From this event,we know exactly,where we

areNo other nation ,has ever taken back palestine,from the Turks before,and to still emphazizie this,the prophecies fore-tell''Thatbarren places in the land,'' should become prosperous again,and yield all manner of fruits''and that a highway should cross the desert,and a seat of learning,should rise up again.All these things have taken place,or are taking place,Along with this all,nations are to be ground to Dust, (and a stone,at this time,should be cut out of the mountain,without hands,and should fill the whole earth)These two events,depict the downfall of trade, and depression.Then again,there should be a rapid increase,of knowledge,Firstly,for the destruction of man,and secondly for his behefit.Then,it goes on tosay''That this generation,shall not pass awaay,till all future prophecies would be finished and setting up of God's kingdom on Earth.

Since,1914,to the present time,is a time specially set forth to punish man,for his neglect,to break him down,then to gather up those who have survived,and to bless and restore them.(Note.Has not this plan of God,been adopted,as a part of the policy,all through the historybof great Britain.One example is suffice..We fought Germany,as a bitter enemy,for four years,broke them down,then when peace came,we were the first,to seek means to rebuild her,and this was accomplished,by the signing of the trade treaty,in1926.)We are now on the last lap of the old order,and will never wittness prosperity,to former nations a s formerly,(only amongst nations' of the same family.)and anytime we may expect Christ's return to earth,and he alone can,put strength and trust into us,and settle up all the affairs of this muddled world.Then true demoracy will be born,as it clearly states,''that the high places,should be made low,(nations)and the low places high''literally meaning,that during Christ's reign,all people will be equal,(doing away with foolish class distinctions,that were needed and recognized as being essential,fpr the times of the gehtiles.)The only true DEMORACY we can boast of todayi

is DEATH.

We are all looking forward to better times,in a few years time,a new and an honest order of things.

The bussiness man hates to admit,a change is forth-coming,in his bussiness methods,and clings to the present system of things,as long as possible,the ~~indivual~~ individual hates for one moment to consider,the stinging truth of the Bible prophecies,arguing,why take the Bible as a proof,and even may go so far,as to tell us,if God wanted us to know these things,He would have told us so.

My answer to these critics,is simply this,that it is not for all to understand,as they have not been educated to it,and inspite of all he can do,we cannot change God's plans,and that we use the Bible,as a means of proof,as it is the only book that proves,beyond all doubt its own prophies.

Through this time of trouble,let us look dimly,as through a glass, and when trouble and despair,,are of the worst,let us look to the near future,''For our redemption draweth nigh,'',the inevitible must come to pass,& wherefor,dost Thou,not prepare thineself,with food,that places light at your feet,leading you out of danger.Let us there-fore,''Watch and Pray,So we will not be ashamed,to meet our maker,face to face.

It is through induvidual effort,that we all try to do onto others,as they would have ,us do,and to promote the brother-hood of nations,as it is up to us alone,to promote the true Christian sprit, for this world ofvours should be honest,happy and true.God give us strength,so we may be found worthy.AMEN.

Written.Sunday.Dec.4th.32.R.Ep

Correspondence
between children of
Bernard J. Harrington & Ann Lois

Clare to Lois
mostly about Melis & summers
at the family home.
Eva
Also letters from brothers
Bernard Gibb Salmon Arm B.C

William S. (Bill) frequently
referred to as Lord Wilberforce,
Lord Bullfrog or Lord Gloomchaser
because of the happy letters
he wrote to everyone including
the nephews who were serving
in the forces overseas.
Bill was rather child like
in manner, due it was thought,
to a fall on his head when
he was a baby. He was never
able to hold down a job but

was a warm hearted, loveable man much loved by all the family including the nieces and nephews.

He was very religious and wrote ~~copies~~ papers on his beliefs. He believed in the prophesies and Armageddon

He spent his summers at the collage at Melis looking after the garden and general maintenance of the house for his sister Clare who owned the house

A.N. Byers.